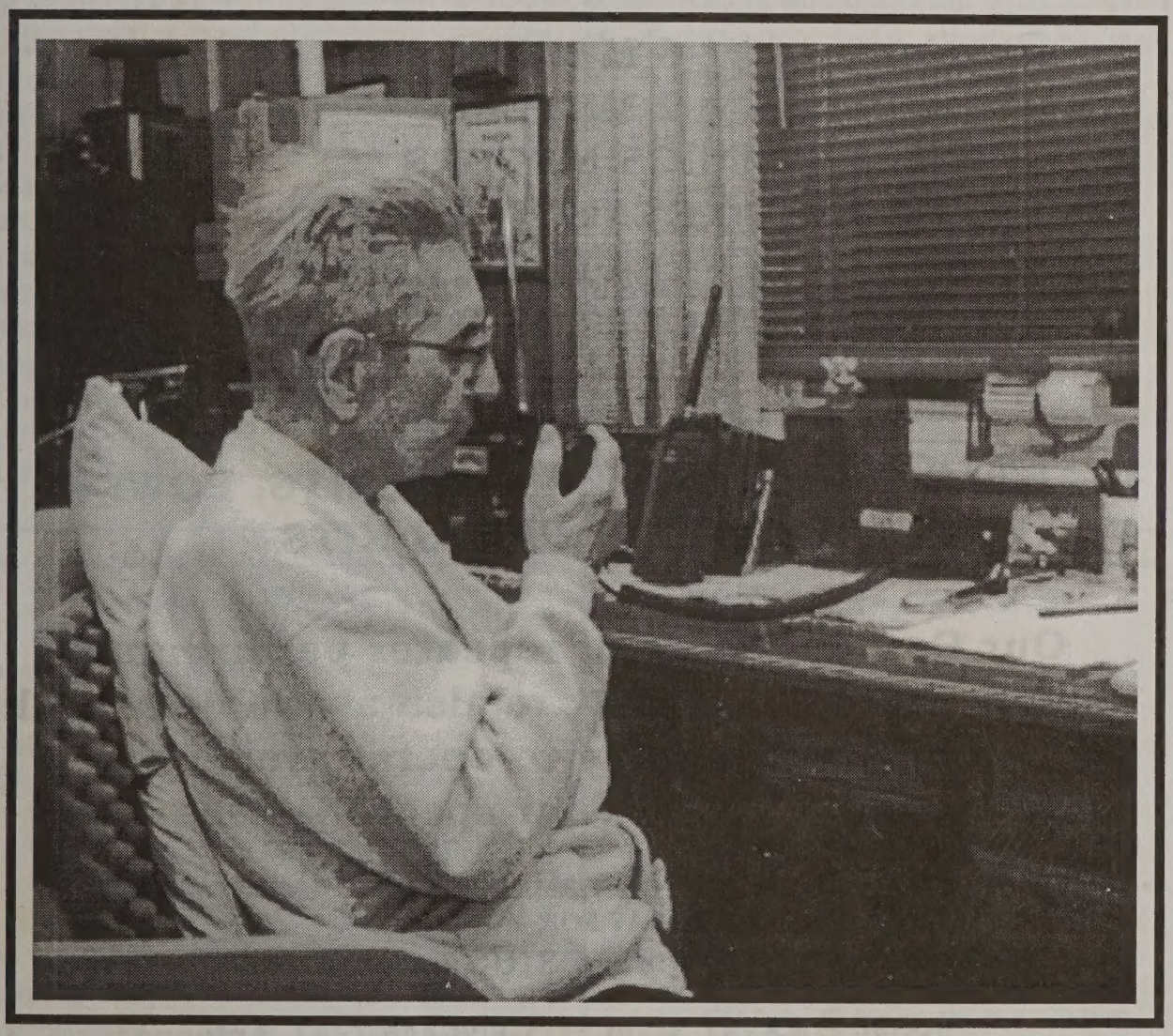
AUTO CALL®

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

JANUARY 1998



Rules and Regs • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests
Club Reports • Shack Sales • Much More!

$1.00

THEY'RE BACK !!!

C3I® IS PROUD TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE FINEST VHF & UHF YAGIS IN THE WORLD FROM K1FO (former Rutland Arrays)

HIGH PERFORMANCE YAGIS AVAILABLE FOR:

** 6 METERS **
** 2 METERS **
** 1.25 METERS **
** 70 CENTIMETERS **
** 33 CENTIMETERS **
** 23 CENTIMETERS **

ALSO AVAILABLE
STACKING KITS, AZ/EL MOUNTS, POWER DIVIDERS, PARTS KITS

Our Complete line of repeater performance enhancement modules are also available as well as complete, ready-to-operate repeater controllers to your specifications

• LET US HELP YOU REACH TOP PERFORMANCE! CALL, WRITE OR VISIT OUR HOME PAGE TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

http://www.C3IUSA.com

1-800-224-5137, Main ** 1-800-445-7747, Antennas

C3I®, 406 N. PITT STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-2316

OWEN WORMSER - K6LEW; SAM RUFFIN - KM4OI; TERRY PRICE - WD8ISK

OWORMSER@C3IUSA.COM, SRUFFIN@C3IUSA.COM, TPRICE@C3IUSA.COM

In this month's issue . . .

Regular & Special Features:

Regional Hamfests 4
Rules and Regs 5
FAR Member Clubs 6
ARRL Report 11
DX DX DX 15
FAR Meeting Minutes 17
Amateur Radio Training 19
Examination Schedules 20
Training Classes 22
SPECIAL - Local Area Nets 28
Shack Sales 51

Club Columns:

Alexandria Radio Club 23
Anne Arundel Radio Club 23
Antietam Radio Association 24
Arlington Amateur Radio Club 25
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club 26
Capital City Amateur Radio Society 31
Carroll County Amateur Radio Club 32
Dulles Amateur Radio Group 33
Fauquier Amateur Radio Association 33
Green Mountain Repeater Association 34
Historical Electronics Museum ARC 36
Loudoun Amateur Radio Group 36
Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Am.Soc. 37
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club . 38
Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Assn. 39
Montgomery Amateur Radio Club 40
Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club 41
National Capitol ARES Council 42
Northern Virginia FM Association 43
Potomac Valley Radio Club 44
Prince George's Wireless Association 45
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club . . 45
St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Assn. . . . 46
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club 47
T-MARC 47
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc. 48

Foundation Officers . . .

Foundation President
Chuck Sommer, N40SD, (301) 249-6544
Executive Vice President
Hugh Katz, KB3TB (301) 262-1733
Vice President
John Chitwood, K3RGB, (301) 799-7360
Vice President
Mary Morris, N4TCI, (703) 971-3905
Vice President
Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, (301) 927-1797
Vice President
Tony Young, WA3YLO, (301) 262-1917
Treasurer
Charles Johnson, N3HFO, (301) 552-1251
Recording Secretary
Al Brown, WA3FYZ, (301) 490-3188

AUTO-CALL Magazine Staff . . .

Editor
John Queen, KAØSEY, (301) 855-0198

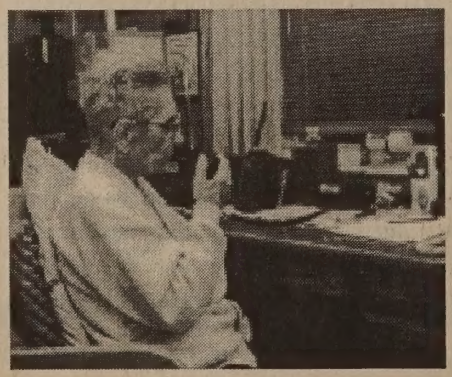
Circulation Manager
John Swafford, W4HU, (703) 536-9537

AUTO-CALL Copyright ©1998. Deadline for copy is the 1st day of each month prior to the month of publication. All contributions are welcomed, but the editor reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Permission is hereby granted to reprint from this publication provided credit is given.
AUTO-CALL is published monthly as the Official Journal of the Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. Comments made by columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation. No effort is made to investigate advertisers, therefore no warranty can be implied. Entered as third class non-profit matter at the Arlington, Virginia Post Office. Subscription rate is $8.00 per year.

Regional Hamfests and Other Events

January 10	Skyline ARC, Marathon, NY	607-849-6751
January 18	Metro 70cm Network, Yonkers, NY	914-969-1053
January 18	Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, Richmond, VA	804-330-3165
January 25	Maryland Mobileers ARC, Odenton, MD	410-987-2384
January 31	Lockport ARA, Lockport, NY (Auction)	716-434-1533
February 7	Charleston ARS, North Charleston, SC	803-747-2324
February 14	Harrisburg RAC, Oberlin, PA	717-232-6087
February 21	Briarpatch & Foothills ARCs, Elkin, NC	910-957-3820
February 22	Long Island Mobile ARC, Freeport, NY	516-520-9311
February 22	South Hills ARC, Pittsburgh, PA	412-341-1043
February 22	Plateau ARA, Fayetteville, WV	304-469-3292
March 7	Split Rock ARA, Parsippany, NJ	973-347-3195
March 7-8	Mecklenburg ARS, Charlotte, NC	704-948-7373
March 14	Highlands County ARC, Sebring, FL	941-382-9560
March 15	Charleston Area Hamfest & Computer Show, Charleston, WV	304-768-1143
March 20-22	Playground ARC, Fort Walton Beach, FL	850-314-3337
March 21	Martin County ARA, Stuart, FL	561-288-7100
March 21	Kennehoochee ARC, Marietta, GA	770-517-0073
March 22	Westchester Emergency Communications Assn., Yonkers, NJ	914-741-6606
March 22	Down East Hamfest Association, Kinston, NC	919-524-5724
March 28-29	Maryland State Convention, Timonium, MD	410-HAM-FEST
April 3-4	Southeastern VHF Conference, Atlanta, GA	404-875-9450
April 4	Catawba Valley Hamfest & Computer Fair, Morganton, NC	704-433-6205
April 4	Appalachian AR Group, Fredericksburg, PA	717-566-2606
April 5	North Carolina State Convention, Raleigh, NC	919-266-9335
April 25	Cherryville Repeater Assn., Harmony Twp., NJ	908-788-2644
April 25	Columbia-Montour ARC, Bloomsburg, PA	717-752-6851
May 3	Antietam Radio Assn., Hagerstown, MD	304-728-7769
May 3	Metro 70cm Network, Yonkers, NJ	914-969-1053
May 3	Warminster ARC, Wrightstown (Bucks County), PA	215-674-5218
May 3	Jackson County ARC, Ripley, WV	304-372-2849
May 29-31	Atlantic Division Convention, Rochester, NJ	716-424-7184

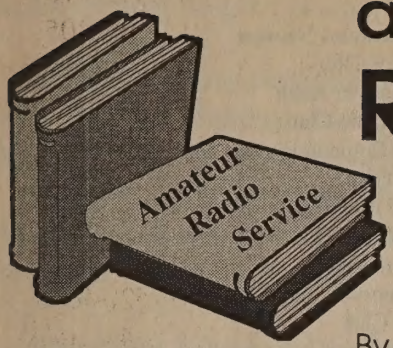
On The Cover



(Photo by Murray Green, K3BEQ

Pictured on the cover of this issue of *Auto Call* is Harold "Doc" Farnham, N3NAG, at his home QTH. Doc is a retired professional musician, well qualified on the piano, organ and accordion. He played with Sammy Kaye, Austin Wiley and Emerson Gill before organizing his own 15 piece band touring the country. Doc participated in World War II and Korea. He obtained his amateur license in 1992. On July 4th he not only celebrated "The Birth of a Nation" but his 86th birthday as well!

Rules and Regs



By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

FCC ANNOUNCES 1998 MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT FEE FOR AN AMATEUR OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION

The FCC announced today that effective January 1, 1998, the maximum allowable reimbursement fee for an amateur operator license examination will be $6.39. This amount is based upon a 2.2% increase in the Department of Labor Consumer Price Index between September, 1996, and September, 1997.

Volunteer examiners (VEs) and volunteer-examiner coordinators (VECs) may charge examinees for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in preparing, processing, administering, or examinees for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in preparing, processing, administering, or coordinating examinations for amateur operator licenses.

The amount of any such reimbursement fee from any one examinee for any one examination session, regardless of the number of elements administered, must not exceed the maximum allowable fee. Where the VEs and the VEC both desire reimbursement, they jointly decide upon a fair distribution of the fee.

This announcement is made pursuant to Section 97.527 of the Commission's Rules. (Tnx FCC via ARN)

FCC SETS RF SAFETY EVALUATION THRESHOLD FOR REPEATERS

The FCC has released an erratum to its RF safety rules that sets 500 W ERP (effective radiated power) as the limit for most amateur repeaters before a routine RF safety evaluation would be required. This applies to repeater systems on all bands.

A routine RF safety evaluation would be required for all repeater systems with more than 500 W ERP and having either (1) a building-mounted antenna or (2) a non-building-mounted antenna with a height of less than 10 meters (approximately 33 feet) above ground level to lowest point of the antenna.

It's fairly simple to calculate ERP. Take the PEP input to the antenna and multiply it by the numerical equivalent of the antenna gain in dBd (dB relative to a halfwave dipole in free space). Gain relative to an isotropic radiator (a point source), dBi, can be converted to dBd by subtracting 2.15 dB from the dBi number. For example, say your repeater puts out 100 W and has 3 dB of feedline loss. Calculate: 100 x 0.5 = 50 W to the antenna. The antenna has 8.8 dBd of gain, or 9.44 as a decimal. So the ERP is 50 x 9.44 = 472 W.

For details, see "Second Erratum" (October 22, 1997) at http://www.fcc.gov/oet/dockets/et93-62. (Tnx ARRL Ltr V16 #44 11-7-97)

FCC INITIATES UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM

As a first step in implementing its new Universal Licensing System (ULS), the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau is attempting to "populate" the ULS by getting licensees to register. Ultimately, the ULS will give hams and other licensees on-line access to make license updates and renewals, eliminating the need for hardcopy forms like the venerable Form 610. An

Continued on page 7

The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

Washington, DC

MEMBER CLUBS

Adams County Amateur Radio Society
Alexandria Radio Club
Amateur Radio Research and Develop. Corp.
AMSAT - Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Antietam Radio Association, Inc.
ARINC Amateur Radio Club
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
Capital City Amateur Radio Society
Capital Hill Amateur Radio Society
Carroll County Amateur Radio Club
Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Chaverim of the Greater Washington Area
Columbia Amateur Radio Association
Culpeper Amateur Radio Association
D-MARC - Digital Mid-Atlantic Radio Council
Department of State Amateur Radio Club
Dulles Amateur Radio Group
Explorer Post #80- Amateur Radio
Fauquier Amateur Radio Association
Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Repeater Group
Goddard Amateur Radio Club
Green Mountain Repeater Association
Hanover Area Hamming Association
Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club
IBM Amateur Radio Club
Johns Hopkins University APL ARC
KB3BOI Repeater Group, Inc.
Kent Island Amateur Radio Club
Laurel Amateur Radio Club
Leisure World Amateur Radio Club
Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
MD/DC MARS (Navy Marine) Association
MADRAS
Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Maryland FM Association
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
Mercury Amateur Radio Assn., NE Area
Metropolitan Communications Network
Metrovision Amateur TV Club
Mid-Atlantic DX & Repeater Assn.
Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
Montgomery Auxiliary Communications Service
Moose Amateur Radio Club
Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club
National Capitol ARES Council
National Capitol DX Association
Naval Research Laboratory Radio Club
NOAA Amateur Radio Club
North Point FM Association
Northern Virginia FM Association
Northern Virginia Radio Club
Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club
Opequon Radio Society
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
Potomac Area VHF Society
Potomac Valley Radio Club
Prince George's Wireless Association, Inc.
Prince George's County ARES/RACES
Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.
- Baltimore Chapter #20
- Del-Mar-VA Chapter #150
- Shenandoah Valley Chapter #137
- Vic Clark Chapter #91
- Washington Chapter #23

Rock Creek Amateur Radio Association
St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club
Stafford Amateur Radio Assn.
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
Summit Amateur Radio Association
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater Council
Vienna Wireless Society
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Assn.
Washington Area Young Ladies ARC
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held January 14th at the Lee Center, Alexandria, Virginia. Take Capitol Beltway to Exit 1 (US 1 North). North to the second traffic light, left on Gibbon Street to Fayette. Left on Fayette to dead end at Lee Center Parking Lot. The meeting is conducted in the conference room near the main office of the center.

Talk-in on 146.55

FCC Public Notice this week said the ULS is aimed at combining the 11 different licensing systems the Bureau now uses—including Amateur Radio—into a single system.

ULS registration requires supplying a Taxpayer Identification Number (for individuals, this is typically your Social Security Number) and "associated call signs." These could include your individual call sign plus any club station call signs for which you are the trustee.

The Public Notice said that in conjunction with the ULS, the FCC "must collect TIN information to correlate its licensees with any outstanding Federal debt that they might have incurred in other dealings with the Federal Government." All vanity call sign applicants must now supply a TIN as part of Form 159.

On-line registration via the Internet is available. In addition to providing basic name and address information, registration requires you to establish a password that you must use along with your TIN to re-enter the system to make future changes. The ULS also lets you check the status of a pending application. A spokesperson in the FCC's Technical Support Group said the FCC will verify all data supplied at the time of registration to ensure that it is valid before the data are entered into the FCC licensee database.

Using the TIN and the associated call sign(s), the ULS assigns a unique sequential number to each licensee. The WTB says that once it has registration information and has implemented the ULS, it will streamline and simplify the FCC's ability to handle future administrative changes (name and address changes, for example).

Licensees are invited to register electronically at http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls. Select ULS Registration. Licensees without access to the Internet may file a TIN registration form, FCC Form 60, from the FCC's fax-on-demand service at 202-418-0177 or by calling the FCC Forms Distribution Center, 800-418-3676.—FCC (Tnx ARRL Ltr v16 #44)

NEW FCC CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS CONFIRMED

William Kennard is the new chairman of the FCC. Kennard, formerly the FCC's General Counsel, won confirmation October 28 on a 99-1 Senate vote. The vote followed expressions of dissatisfaction from several senators with the way the FCC has been implementing the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Kennard this week named John Nakahata as his chief of staff.

Confirmed on voice votes were FCC nominees Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Michael Powell, and Gloria Tristani.

Outgoing FCC Chairman Reed Hundt this week congratulated the four newly confirmed commissioners. All four new FCC members were scheduled to be sworn in November 3. Commissioner Susan Ness is the lone holdover from the Hundt FCC. (Tnx ARRL Ltr v16 #44)

WRC 97: CODE TO STAY FOR NOW

Whether you are for or against codefree access to the high frequency bands, do not look for the world's communications regulators to make it happen anytime in the near future. Perhaps not even in your lifetime. This because of what did not take place in Geneva.

Tabled for at least the next four years is consideration of changes to Article S25 of the international radio regulations. Article S25 contains the rules that are specific to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services. This includes the international commitment to the Morse code proficiency requirement for operation below 30 MHz.

The decision to put off any action on changing the code requirement has nothing to do with the desires of those who want to maintain the code or see it go. Their voices were not even heard by the delegates attending WRC 97. Rather, the decision

Continued next page

was purely an economic one based on using the assemblys' meager resources to benefit the greatest number of people. Ham radio in general and the Morse code in particular are not seen as being very important issues in a world that revolves around instant digital communications using satellites and the internet. As such, those hoping to see a codefree access to the high frequency bands for all license holders should not hold their breath.

While the delay in debating this issue has only been put off from 1999 to 2001, those who follow the WRC believe there is a very little chance it will be discussed then, or in the foreseeable future. Even if it were to make the agenda for 2001 and changes approved, it would probably take 4 to 5 years to get senate ratification of the revised treaty. Then another 4 to 6 years for the FCC to enact and implement new rules. This would put any code free access to H-F off until 2012 at the earliest.

Also pushed back to the tentative agenda for the year 2001 is the possible realignment of the 40 meter band to resolve a conflict between hams and broadcasters in part of the band. This means that hams will have to live with the current 40 meter mess for at least another decade. We will have more on the outcome of WRC 97 next week. (Via various sources)

MORE ON REPEATER RF EXPOSURE

An update on last weeks story dealing with maximum RF exposure limits placed on ham radio repeaters. Many hams and others appear confused when reading the Commission's Second and Third Erratums on this subject without the original document in front of them. Many are dependent on news services such as ours, the ARRL Letter and the W5YI Report to explain it to them. And the biggest question on the lips of a lot of repeater owners is why a safety survey has to be conducted if a repeater is at a remote site. A very simple answer is provided by broadcast consultant Bob Gonsett, W6VR, of Communications General Corporation in Fallbrook, California. Bob says that you must do a routine human exposure to RF signal analysis whenever two or more transmitting antennas are in the same vicinity. This, even if they are not owned and operated by the same party.

The reason is that the government is very much concerned about the total amount of radio frequency signals at a given location, and just which frequencies are involved. In order to calculate this, you have to know a lot about all the antennas at the site.

W6VR adds that the detailed language on all of this is contained in an impressive new FCC publication known as OET 65 and the just released Supplement B with still more information for hams. It's a lot of reading, but well worth it to keep your shack and repeater site legal. (Via W6VR, Newsline) FM ARL 16/46 11-26

WRC-97 WRAPS UP IN GENEVA

[Ed: This authoritative and amateur-oriented report appearing in the ARRL Letter volume 16, number 46 (November 26) was written by the ARRL and IARU members present at WRC-97 and who are identified in the text.]

The 1997 World Radiocommunication Conference concluded its talks in the early morning hours of November 21 in Geneva, Switzerland. Amateur Radio survived WRC-97 largely unscathed, but the stage has been set for renewed spectrum battles at WRC-99.

The Little LEOs (non-voice, non-geostationary mobile satellite interests)—which put a huge scare into the ham radio community in 1996 with their proposals to share ham radio VHF and UHF bands—were unable to muster much support for new allocations at WRC-97. However, they came away with up to 3 MHz of additional spectrum on a regional basis, in the bands between 454 and 460 MHz. The Little LEOs also got a resolution calling for urgent studies in preparation for WRC-99 —what some at the conference called "a hunting license" for additional VHF/UHF spectrum. A second issue that will recur at WRC-99 is finding a place in the 420-470 MHz frequency range for the Earth Exploration Satellite Service

(EESS). Synthetic aperture radars (SARs) using frequencies in this range are said to be capable of penetrating the rain forest for mapping purposes. Two significant ham radio-related issues failed to make the cut for consideration at WRC-99. For budgetary reasons, the WRC-97 delegates had to limit the WRC-99 agenda only to the most urgent issues. Pushed back to the tentative agenda for WRC-2001 were the possible realignment of the 40 meter band to resolve a conflict between hams and broadcasters in part of the band (along with possible expansion of broadcasting bands between 4 and 10 MHz), and Article S25 of the international radio regulations. (Article S25 contains the international regulations specific to the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services, including the Morse code requirement for operation below 30 MHz.)

WRC-97 delegates approved a resolution encouraging administrations to facilitate the use of ham radio and other "decentralized means of communications" for disaster mitigation and relief operations. This resolution eliminated the need for Resolution 640, which defined how certain ham bands could be used for international disaster communications by non-amateur stations, so Resolution 640 was suppressed.

WRC-97 delegates did agree to upgrade the Earth Exploration Satellite Service from secondary to primary at 1215 to 1300 MHz, which should have only minimal impact on amateur use of 1240-1300 MHz. The presence of EESS there also reduces the possibility that other, less-compatible services might later be introduced into this band. In other allocations decisions, amateur satellite segments were not included among allocations for wind profiler radars. Except for a worldwide primary allocation at 1270 to 1295 MHz, the only specific allocations for wind profiler radars are in Region 1, and those are on a secondary basis. Region 2 administrations were urged to implement wind profilers in radiolocation bands at 440 to 450 MHz, 904 to 928 MHz (protecting the lower, weak-signal segment), 1270 to 1295 MHz (protecting amateur satellite and weak-signal), and 1300 to 1375 MHz. The delegates agreed that the bands 420 to 435 MHz or 438 to 440 MHz could be considered for use in situations where there was incompatibility between wind profiler radars and other radio applications at 440 to 450 MHz or 470 to 494 MHz (only in some Region 1 countries). In this case, too, the amateur-satellite segment is protected.

Several Region 1 (primarily European) countries deleted footnoted exceptions to the international table of allocations in the 1810 to 1830 kHz range, expanding the usability of 160 meters for ham radio. North Korea was persuaded to drop its bid for footnoted exceptions to the allocations table that could have affected some ham radio bands in that part of the world.

Amateur Radio was represented at WRC-97 by a multinational team of International Amateur Radio Union officials, including Secretary Larry Price, W4RA, Vice President Michael Owen, VK3KI, and Region 1 Vice Chairman Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM. They were assisted for a time by Tafa Diop, 6W1KI, and Eduardo Estrada, HC2EE, who are members of their respective regional executive committees. Numerous radio amateurs attended the conference in official capacities on behalf of their national administrations, including ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, who served on the US delegation.

In all, 1801 delegates from 142 countries registered at the conference. Another 141 observers from regional and international organizations also attended. (Tnx ARRL Ltr v16, #46 11-26)

FCC ISSUES RF SAFETY SUPPLEMENT B TO OET BULLETIN 65

Hams now have basic guidelines and tools to evaluate their stations for compliance with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines that start phasing in January 1, 1998. The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology issued the long-anticipated Amateur Radio Supplement B to its

OET Bulletin 65 on November 18. The FCC worked closely with the Amateur Radio community to develop the new supplement. Several ARRL Headquarters staff members and Technical Advisors reviewed preliminary drafts of the supplement. ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, has been the League's point man for RF safety and exposure issues.

"It has been my pleasure to work with the FCC staff and the amateur community in finalizing Supplement B," Hare said. "All who have been part of this process deserve the thanks of the entire amateur community."

Supplement B, entitled Additional Information for Amateur Radio Stations, contains detailed information specific to ham radio stations. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the FCC's OET Bulletin 65 (Version 97-01), Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields. The revised Bulletin 65 was issued earlier this year. Supplement B covers definitions of RF radiation and discusses the FCC exposure guidelines and their applications, methods of predicting human exposure, estimating compliance distances, and controlling exposure to RF fields. The supplement runs approximately 70 pages.

Among its noteworthy highlights are numerous easy-to-use tables based on various frequencies, power levels and antenna configurations to help hams determine whether their stations comply with the FCC's published RF exposure guidelines. Most tables show compliance distance—the distance that an antenna needs to be located from areas of exposure to be in compliance. (For a closer look, see "FCC RF-Exposure Regulations—the Station Evaluation," by Ed Hare, W1RFI, which will appear in the January issue of QST.)

The new RF exposure rules go into effect January 1, 1998 for all new stations and for those filing a Form 610 with the FCC after that date. Existing stations have until September 1, 2000 to comply with the new rules. But, existing stations making changes that could affect RF exposure from their station—such as increasing power or relocating antennas—must evaluate that change if done after January 1, 1998.

As first announced, the FCC set a power threshold of 50 W to trigger the need to do a station evaluation. In late August, the FCC revised the power level thresholds to trigger a routine Amateur Radio station RF exposure evaluation. Those changes were welcome news for most hams. The newest guidelines raised its original 50-W PEP threshold on all bands except 10 meters through 2 meters, where it remains at 50 W PEP.

The FCC went along in part with an ARRL request and established a sliding scale for threshold levels dependent upon frequency. The revised thresholds (all PEP) are 500 W for 160 through 40 meters, 425 W on 30 meters (the maximum legal power is 200 W), 225 W on 20 meters, 125 W on 17 meters, 100 W on 15 meters, 75 W on 12 meters and 50 W on 10 meters. The threshold for all VHF bands is 50 W. On UHF, the threshold level is 70 W on 70 cm, 150 W on 33 cm, 200 W on 23 cm, and 250 W on 13 cm and higher frequencies.

The threshold for amateur repeaters is 500 W effective radiated power (ERP) if the repeater antenna is located on a building or is less than 10 meters above ground. Stations operating at or below these respective power levels are categorically excluded from having to conduct a routine RF radiation evaluation. Mobile and portable (hand-held) devices using push-to-talk operation generally are also exempt from evaluation. But, all stations—regardless of power level—still must comply with the RF exposure limits that become effective New Year's Day.

OET Bulletin 65 and the new Supplement B are available at http://www.fcc.gov/oet/info/documents/bulletins/#65. Copies are available from International Transcription Service Inc, 1231 20th St NW, Washington, DC 20036; tel 202-857-3800; fax 202-857-3805. (Tnx ARRL on-air Bulletin B070 11-19)

American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford, W4HU

The purpose of the ARRL Report is to provide the essential news of interest to active, organizationally minded radio amateurs faster than it can be disseminated by our official Journal QST. We strive to be fast, accurate and readable in our reporting. Material from the ARRL Report may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form including photo reproduction and electronic data banks, provided that credit is given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

HAMS PITCH IN DURING EARLY-SEASON SNOW EMERGENCY

Late October brought unseasonably early and extremely heavy snowfall to the Rocky Mountain states and the Great Plains. Hams volunteered to help, providing emergency communications and other logistical support as residents in some cases found themselves without power, telephone service, or transportation.

Mike Proctor, KBØIAP, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, reports that the Pikes Peak District 14 ARES (PPARES) actually began its activities by tracking the storm before it arrived, then rammed up its activities accordingly as the weather situation went from bad to worse. After the National Weather Service issued the blizzard warning, PPARES used its severe weather page over the 146.97 repeater for the first time.

PPARES was called in to support the Colorado Springs Police Operations Center to help with staffing and transportation. As the storm became too much even for many 4x4 vehicles, the US Army sent in Humvees, and some hams were assigned to these for communications. Humvees were used to rescue stranded travelers and for emergency transport. By the third day of the storm, El Paso RACES requested PPARES to staff El Paso County Search and Rescue as RACES had exhausted its resources. At one point in the middle of the weather emergency, telephone circuits became overloaded. "We were very fortunate that power failures did not occur," Proctor said.

In all, Proctor reports 85 hams took part, including PPARES, District 24 ARES and El Paso County RACES. "PPARES and its members performed admirably, exceeding mission requirements and receiving strong praise from our served agencies," he said in a lengthy report. Even snowbound hams helped with net control, dispatch, map lookups, mission coordination and telephone calls.

In Nebraska, many residents found themselves without power for up to a week as heavy, wet snow downed trees and power lines in the Cornhusker State. Hams volunteered to help transport stranded emergency workers in the city of Lincoln, Joe Eisenberg, WAØWRI, told Newsline. Hams also helped transport Red Cross workers and equipment to and from shelters.

Midlands ARES Assistant EC Mary Joseph, NØTRK, of Omaha, says ARES pitched in to help coordinate the cleanup effort in the week or so following the storm. She reports that ARES worked with the Nebraska National Guard to support communications. Joseph says she and her husband Pat, NØHPP, set up a station in the Guard command center, "right next to their communications people."

At one point, mobile ATV units were able to send back video of the troops in action and scenes of just how bad the situation was—a capability that Joseph says impressed the Guard commanders.

Continued next page

Once the Guard commanders and ARES folks felt more comfortable with each other, the military dame to call more often on the hams' capability. "Soon, it became obvious that ARES-relayed traffic was more reliable from all areas and faster than cellular phones," Joseph says. "Amateur Radio was mentioned as a positive by one commander, and everyone agreed that ARES made their job easier, getting the message through fast and accurately."

Hams also were assigned to work with Guard troops in vehicles to keep lines of communication open. Overall, 30 ARES members from Midlands ARES, Sarpy County ARES and Cass County ARES logged nearly 560 hours of volunteer service to support the cleanup mission of the Nebraska Army National Guard between November 1 and November 7.

"During that time, Midlands ARES was always able to get the message through," Joseph says. This was critical in those situations where the Guard's radios or cellular telephone service were unable to perform.

RADIO COACHES PROGRAM TO RAISE ELMERING TO NEW LEVEL

Over the years in the Pages of QST, countless letters and articles have been written about Elmers, those patient, inspired souls who thoroughly enjoy bringing newcomers into the world of Amateur Radio. Now, the ARRL's new Radio Coaches program takes Elmering to new levels. Through the Radio Coaches program, you and your fellow club members can become part of a national effort to better the lives of youth using Amateur Radio. And we'll provide the game plan!

Radio Coaches stems from the kickoff of America's Promise, the Alliance for Youth, a national campaign to improve the lives of the nation's young people and put them on paths for brighter, more productive futures. As a result, the ARRL Board of Directors authorized the creation of the "Radio Coaches" program as Amateur Radio's commitment to youth.

The mission will be to give young people an ongoing relationship with a caring adult and a marketable skill through effective education. Amateur Radio will be our chief tool.

How does it work? From day one, we supply information to help your affiliated or Special Service Club form a "coaching team." Your team will build a relationship with a local school, community organization or other institution from which you will recruit your "athletes."

You will coach young people in your community on the basic elements of electronics and the magic of radio communication through exposure to Amateur Radio. In addition, you may arrange field trips to technology museums, radio conventions and hamfests.

Or you may choose to introduce students to local businesses that use radio and electronics technology. Your job as a coach will be to make every member of your team more aware of how these experiences can lead to career opportunities in telecommunications.

The ARRL will support this effort by providing clubs with fliers to help recruit youngsters, curriculum materials and other informational resources. While supplies last, the ARRL will provide 1997 ARRL Handbooks to participating clubs who want to use them with students and later donate them to school libraries of youth groups. The League also will provide youth packages with handouts to accompany the curriculum materials. Basically, we'll supply the strategy, and you'll supply the energy and imagination.

Through Radio Coaches, we want to reinforce the idea that Amateur Radio is a "sport for the Brain." Ham radio provides not only a lifetime of enjoyment, but also potentially, a lifetime career.

For more information on how you can get involved in the Radio Coaches program, contact Radio Coaches, c/o Field Services Department,

Continued next page

ARRL, 225 Main St. Newington CT, 06111; or e-mail coaches@arrl.org. — Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY

HAMVENTION INKS HARA DEAL THROUGH 2003

The Dayton Hamvention will be staying put for at least a few more years, and definitely through the year 2000, when it will be the site of the ARRL National Convention. Hamvention and HARA Arena officials this week announced a five-year contract to keep the Hamvention in Dayton. That's the longest contract in their business relationship. According to a report by Angela Townsend in the Dayton Daily News, there had been talk that the Hamvention might leave Dayton for Columbus, Indianapolis, or even Atlanta after its current contract expired in one year.

Hara Arena President Johnny Walker estimated that the Hamvention brings in $7 million in revenue each year to the Dayton Area. Approximately 28,000 attended the 1997 Hamvention. The 1998 Dayton Hamvention will be held May 15-17. Advance tickets are on sale now for $15. Write Hara Arena Conference Center, 1001 Shiloh Springs Rd, Trotwood, OH 45415.—thanks to Bev Priest, N8VZV

AT&T FUNDS KENTUCKY HAM RADIO REPEATERS

There was a silver lining to the clouds that brought heavy flooding to Northern Kentucky earlier this year. Ham radio's role in providing emergency communication in the flooding's wake has resulted in a windfall for that region's hams—courtesy of AT&T. Seventh District Emergency Coordinator John Meyers, N4GNL, of Covington, Kentucky, says AT&T has agreed to spend some $100,000 to set up a VHF repeater, a UHF repeater, antennas, and a shack with air conditioning and heat at one of its cellular telephone sites. Other sites will be equipped as receive-only sites and tied back to the repeater. As part of the deal, the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club agreed to cover the electricity and phone bills. Meyers says he's already gotten four Northern Kentucky counties (Campbell, Boon, Kenton and Pendelton) plus the City of Falmouth to pitch in for the utilities at the sites.

Meyers says ham radio was the only means of communication for the first four days of the floods. Many of the club's members remained on duty to help out during the flood recovery. Hams' efforts during the flooding attracted the attention and respect of local governmental officials and of AT&T, which saw the possibility of a mutually beneficial arrangement. AT&T had been hoping to gain access to several possible cellular telephone antenna sites that had been off-limits. With the ham equipment on board, however, the cellular sites gained emergency communication status—just what was needed to get the moratorium lifted on their use by AT&T. "The marriage came together really good," Meyers said this week. "AT&T needed some sites, and hams needed the coverage."

In addition to the Kentucky repeater, AT&T also plans to set up a similar emergency system for hams in Southwestern Ohio, which also suffered from this year's flooding. Meyers says AT&T's total commitment is in the area of $300,000. When it's all in place, Meyers says, a huge region in Northern Kentucky, Southwestern Ohio and Southern Indiana will be accessible using a 2 W hand-held transceiver.

If all goes as planned, Meyers hopes to throw the switch on the first new repeater site in Edgewood, Kentucky, by year's end. Great Lakes Director George Race, WB8BGY, has been invited to take part.

ALABAMA HAMS GET HAM RADIO EXCLUDED FROM ORDINANCE

Ham radio antennas have been specifically excluded from a recently passed Communication and Telecommunication Facilities ordinance in

Continued next page

Dothan, Alabama. Working with information provided by the League's Regulatory Information Branch, members of the ARRL-affiliated Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club turned out at the Planning and Zoning Board meeting in Dothan last month to ensure that the new ordinance did not adversely impact ham radio. Roy Dancy, N4AN, reports a dozen hams showed up at the meeting—somewhat to the surprise of Board members.

Alabama Section Manager Tom Moore, KL7Q, congratulated the club members on their success.

BRUCE L. KELLEY, W2ICE, SK

Antique Wireless Association cofounder and AWA Museum curator emeritus Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, of Holcomb, New York, died November 6, 1997. He was 82.

Kelley, along with George Batterson, W2GB, and Linc Cundall, W2LC, founded the AWA in 1952. The museum stemmed from one that Kelley had set up in his barn in the late 1940s. Kelley had just recently stepped down as curator of the AWA museum in Bloomfield because of ill health. An April 1991 QST article about the AWA Museum called Kelley the "guiding light" of the museum.

Bruce Kelley was very well known as a radio historian and among vintage radio collectors. He was a frequent contributor to the AWA journal, The Old Timer's Bulletin and was co-author of "Hams Span the Atlantic on Shortwave!" that appeared in the December 1996 issue of QST and won the QST cover Plaque Award for that month. Kelley assisted in the preparation of Ken Burns' TV documentary "Empire of the Air," some of which was filmed at the AWA Museum. Kelley also produced the video, "The Trans-Atlantic Tests and Station 1BCG," available from the ARRL. He also was club historian for the Rochester Amateur Radio Association.

Kelley was first licensed as W8ACY in 1929 and had been a continuous member of the ARRL since then. He was retired from the engineering department of Eastman Kodak.

Ed Gable, K2MP, who recently succeeded Kelley as museum curator, said, "The world has lost a true radio historian and a great radio amateur."

AWA President Bill Fizette, W2DGB, recalls he first met Kelley in the 1970s, after he was introduced to the AWA. "Even at that time, Bruce Kelley was somewhat of a legend among the members. He seemed to be everywhere and do everything, from building a museum of early wireless apparatus, now one of the best in the world, to editing and producing the club bulletin, to officiating at the conferences, to maintaining an extensive outreach program—the list goes on," he wrote. "I thank Bruce Kelley for the inspiration and opportunity he gave to us. He was a leader and a very unique person, and he will be missed."

Survivors include his wife, Helen. Services were November 13 in Bloomfield, New York.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

HAM RADIO OUTLET

14803 Build America Drive, Bldg B
Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 643-1063, (800) 444-4799

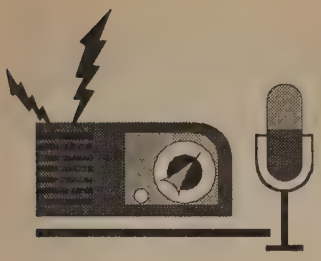
ANAHEIM, CA • ATLANTA, GA • DENVER, CO • NEW CASTLE, DE
OAKLAND, CA • PHOENIX, AZ • PORTLAND, OR • SALEM, NH
SAN DIEGO, CA • SUNNYVALE, CA • VAN NUYS, CA • WOODBRIDGE, VA

pepco

Michael C. Martin
N3RWF
Intererence Investigator
ESO&C Substation Operations
& Test-Electronics

8400B Old Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Office/Fax 301 967-5230 Pager 202 530-3731
Email MCMARTIN@PEPCO.COM



DX DX DX

By John Kanode, N4MM

THE CQ MAGAZINE DX AWARDS PROGRAM

In addition to the ARRL DXCC Awards Program, CQ Magazine has a DX Awards Program. These awards are very popular and many DXers participate in these programs. The most popular is the WAZ (Worked All Zones) award. It has been around since the mid 1930's and is one of the oldest DX awards. The history of how this award came about is very interesting but too long to go into here. The basic award is for working all 40 CQ Zones. The award can be mixed mode, all SSB or all CW. All contacts made on or after November 14, 1945 count for these awards. There are single band WAZ awards for 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. These are for all SSB or all CW only and the start date is January 1, 1973. In 1991, WARC Band WAZ awards were added to the program. These are for 30, 17 or 12 meters and may be mixed mode, all SSB, all CW or all RTTY. The start date for these WAZ awards is January 1, 1991.

There is a 5 Band WAZ which requires one to work all 40 zones on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. It is mixed mode only and has a start date of January 1, 1979. There is a certificate for those who reach the 150 zone level and endorsements at 160, 170, 180, 190 and 200 zones. A special plaque is available for those who reach the 200 level. There is a RTTY WAZ and it is for working all 40 zones on RTTY. It is endorseable for single bands, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters and has a start date of November 15, 1945 for the mixed band award and January 1, 1973 for the single band awards. There is a 160 WAZ and it is mixed mode only and has a start date of January 1, 1989. CQ also issues a Satellite WAZ and it is a mixed mode only award with a start date of January 1, 1989. The last of the WAZ series is the Novice WAZ and is for Novices and Technicians only. They must work 25 zones using the 80, 40, 15 and 10 meter Novice bands and all contacts must be while they hold a Novice or Technician license. The start date for this award is January 1, 1952.

(Worked All Prefixes) award. This award is available for mixed modes, all CW, all 558 and is also available to SWLs and has a special Novice award. This series of awards has several endorsement categories. There are endorsements at each 50 prefix level above a minimum, there are continental endorsements and band endorsements. The start date for this program is November 15, 1945. There is a WPX Award of Excellence which is a special award plaque for those who have achieved a very high standing in the all categories of the WPX program. There is an Honor Roll that appears in CQ magazine for those who maintain a high standing in the program.

The last DX award that CQ offers is called the CQ DX Award, which is a modified version of the ARRL DXCC award. There are three basic awards, all CW, all SSB and all RTTY. The ARRL DXCC list is used to determine countries but deleted countries do not count. There are endorsements for 150, 200, 250, 300, 310 and 320 countries. There are endorsements for 28. 3.5/7 and 1.8 MHz, QRP, Mobile, SSTV and Satellite. The start date for these awards is November 15, 1945.

CQ does issue the USA-CA award which is for working US Counties. The rules for this award are complex. If anyone would like a complete set of the rules for all of the CQ awards, send a SASE to John Kanode, N4MM, RFD 1, Box 73A, Boyce, Virginia 22620.

UPCOMING DX CONTESTS

Japan Int'l Low Band CW Contest	Jan 9-11, 98
HA DX Contest	Jan 18, 98
CQ WW 160 Meter SSB Contest	Jan 23-25
REF CW Contest	Jan 24-25
UBA SSB Contest	Jan 24-25

TIDBITS

While on the subject of DX awards, James Mackey, K3FN from West Hartford, Ct. offers a WARC 500 award. This is a plaque for working 500 or more countries on 30, 17 and 12 meters. There are endorsements for 600, 700, 800, 900 and 1000 countries. There are no other endorsements and no start date is given, however any contacts before 1980 would be invalid, since the WARC bands were allocated to the Amateur Radio Service at the WARC 79, which occurred in late 1979. The plaque fee is $50.00 and applications and country check lists are available postpaid for $2.00 or 4 IRCs.

The 1998 New Orleans DX Convention will be held on August 14-15, 1998 and will be held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel. More on this later as info becomes available.

The North Shenandoah DX Association will hold its annual Sunday dinner meeting on January 4, 1998 at 1 PM at the Lee Jackson Restaurant in Winchester, Virginia. This is a business meeting with election of officers for 1998 and there will be door prizes. The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in DX.

Jim Smith, VK9NS has returned home from India. He was active using the call VU2JBS for a few weeks. His purpose was to obtain permission for operating in the Anderman or Laccadives islands, which was reported as not successful.

WØRI and K9FD are planning a trip to China in December or January. The purpose is to put BY on 160, 80 and 40 meters for a week. They will be using the call BY1QH, which is a club station. This is zone 24, which is very difficult to work from the US East Coast on 160, 80 and 40 meters.

...DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON...

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is soliciting interest in a charter flight to the Dayton Hamvention on May 16, 1998. The aircraft will leave Baltimore (BWI) at 5 AM fly direct to Dayton Allowing you take in a full day at the Hamvention and leave for the return flight at 7 PM that evening.

Yes a full day at Dayton and home by evening. Ok, What's the cost you ask ? If, and only if, we fill the plane full, (that ís 150 people) the cost per person is approx. $200.00 plus your Hamvention ticket. The charter people tell me the earlier we can commit to going the firmer the price gets. So what I propose is if your interested let me know ASAP , phone or e-mail is the best way to contact me. I'll keep a list of interested people and if there are enough people who want to go this way then we'll proceed , if not the idea will be dropped.

I'd really like to have responses back to me by November 15, 1997. If there is enough interest then 1/2 of the fare will be due by Dec. 10, 1997 and the balance by Feb 10,1998 . If you commit to going there will be no refunds, however if you can find a substitute to take your place then that's fine. Ok, if you're ready to go, then contact Chuck Sommer 301-286-6790 days or e-mail csommer@juno.com or mail to:

Chuck Sommer 16106 Atlantis Drive, Bowie, MD 20716

FAR Meeting Minutes

November 12, 1997
Alexandria, VA

FAR President, Chuck Sommer (N4OSD), called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. at Lee Center in Alexandria, VA.

The attendees introduced themselves There were 21 trustees representing 20 groups in attendance and included:

Al Brown, KZ3AB
Antietam RA & MEPN
Charles Johnson, N3HFO
Anne Arundel RC & NVFMA
Tony Young, WA3YLO
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Dennis Bodson, W4PWF
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
George Saunders, KR4MU
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Donald Kirby, KR3A
Calvert County ARC
Steven Urquiza, N3IDX
Calvert County ARC
John Swafford, W4HU
Dept of State ARC & QCWA Chapt. 91
Marcia Miller, KD4ITP
Dulles Amateur Radio Group
Ed Mumford, N3IRQ
Frederick ARC
Mildred Mumford, N3KGQ
Frederick ARC
Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC
FAR Scholarship Committee
Chip Weems, W4PBG
Historical Electronics Museum ARC
Dan Blasberg, KA8YPY
Laurel ARC
Tim Dugan, KA3YYP
MD/DC MARS Association
Mary Morris, N4TCI
Mt Vernon ARC
Lenny Schachter, N3RPQ
Natl Cap ARES Cncl & MADRAS
Chuck Sommer, N4OSD
PG Co RACES/ARES
Richard Maylott, W2YE
Sterling Park ARC
Hugh Katz, KB3TB
Voice of America ARC
Alan Bosch, KD4FRK
Vienna Wireless

The October minutes were approved as mailed. The treasurer's report was given by Charles Johnson (N3HFO) and accepted.

Auto-Call - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported that the Dulles Amateur Radio Group membership has a 100% subscription rate to Auto-Call. Congratulations to DARG!

John Swafford (W4HU) reported a query from World Radio asking how we manage such a high quality publication and keep the rate at $8.00 per year. John replied that is was only because of the dedication of our volunteers and our editor, John Queen (KAØSEY). Kudos to all!

Survivor's Assistance - John Swafford (W4HU) reported that most of the equipment from the estate of Sam Lebowich (WB4HAV) has been sold with the help of Bill Cann (W4PUH) and Jack Felter (KE4MFF). Only a few items remain for sale, i.e., a low-pass filter, phone patch, various antennas, etc.

Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported that he went to La Plata, Maryland, and picked up about 20 pieces of gear from the estate of W3ALX, who passed away about 10 years ago. Items include a Swan 600T and Swan 600R, various receivers and other older gear. He also still has a crankup/tiltover self supporting tower with a TA-33-JR beam, AEA isopole, rotor and cables near Bowie for $300. The buyer has to dismantle and move it.

Continued next page

Scholarship Committee - Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) reported that there will be 64 scholarships awarded this year. 17 of these scholarships will be sponsored by QCWA. Several other clubs are changing to memorial scholarships. Hugh also thanked Mary Morris (N4TCI) for helping out with some of the clerical work.

Hugh also asked the Foundation trustees to please consider a replacement for his position as the FAR Scholarship Chairman. He plans to retire after this scholarship year. The Foundation is asking for a volunteer or volunteers to assume this awesome responsibility.

ARRL Report — There was no ARRL report.

FARFest — Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) reported that the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds has been secured for FARFest on September 13, 1998. Al Brown (KZ3AB) reported that he received a letter from the ARRL stating that Atlantic Division Director, Kay Craigie, has approved our application to hold an "ARRL approved hamfest"...on September 6, 1998. FAR Secretary Al Brown (KZ3AB) will straighten out the mistake on the dates. In order to clear up any confusion, FARFest 98 will take place in Gaithersburg Maryland on Sunday, September 13, 1998.

Old Business

The FAR Board has finally filtered through the National Capital ARES Council's (NCAC) Request and Proposals (R&P's) to FAR. The FAR Board decided to pass along two of NCAC's R&P's to the trustees for a vote and rejected the others.

The first R&P was for two portable repeaters. The FAR Board reduced that R&P to a single portable repeater and passed that on to the trustees for consideration. The cost to FAR will be approximately $965.00. A motion was made, seconded and a vote approved the purchase. A second approving vote is needed at the next FAR meeting.

The second NCAC R&P was for various packet equipment upgrades at the National Weather Service in Sterling Virginia (SKYWARN). Subsequent events made this second R&P moot. Discussions resulted in a motion being made to allow for spending up to $1,100 toward a new HF transceiver to be used by SKYWARN. The motion was seconded and there was an approving vote with one club abstaining.

New Business

Discussion began about a replacement computer for the Scholarship Committee. It was decided that this was a normal office expense that should be handled by the FAR Board and need not be considered by the trustees.

Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) reported that response to the Dayton Hamvention charter flight has been poor. There have been only 12 replies, so far. This proposal was announced at the last meeting, included in the minutes and advertised in Auto-Call.

Unless there is a remarkable response in the next few weeks, the idea will be dropped.

Announcements, etc.

Al Brown (KZ3AB) representing the Antietam Radio Association presented a plaque to the Laurel Amateur Radio Club, represented by Dan Blasberg (KA8YPY), for winning the Maryland-DC QSO Party. Dan vowed that LARC would be back next year and try to do it again. Good luck!

Lenny Schachter (N3RPQ) reported that WARC 97 will not consider the "Little LEO's" and there is talk about splitting up the 40meter amateur band. Details were schetchy.

The Calvert Amateur Radio Club complained that they did not receive last month's minutes by neither e-mail nor snail mail. FAR Secretary Al Brown (KZ3AB) has vowed to correct the problem.

Continued on page 49

Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callaham NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	HAM-TALK, BARC Voice Mail	(410) HAM-TALK x3835
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARC	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 969-0410
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Godfrey Miller N8GM	(540) 877-2607
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM	(703) 691-2719
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170

Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

ATTENTION VE's: It's time to plan your 1998 test dates. 1998 dates will appear in Autocall soon. Also, copies of the 1998 AutoCall exam schedule will be distributed to local ham radio stores around the middle of December. Please send your 1998 information to WZ4A as soon as possible."

* Effective July 1, 1998, the General Class written exam question pool (Element 3b) will change. All books and study materials not based on this new pool will be obsolete after that date. Be sure to use study materials appropriate for the current question pool.

* Effective January 1, 1998, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is $6.39.

1998 Schedule of Examinations

January 4 (Sunday)	**Elkins, WV** - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506
January 10 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
January 17 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC), Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In, Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	Manchester, MD - Hanover Area Hamming Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred - Walk-Ins Accepted, Contact: Ed Davis KE2FN (410)239-8488

January 25 (Sunday)	**Odenton, MD** - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)Pre-Registration Requested - Limited Walk-In Contact: Jerry Gavin NU3D (410)761-1423
February 1 (Sunday)	**Landover, MD** - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
February 7 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Required, Elements 2 and 3a only Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905 Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
February 14 (Saturday)	**Cumberland, MD** - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576 Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
February 19 (Thursday)	**Towson, MD** - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Walk-Ins Accepted Contact: Bill Dobson N3WD (410)HAM-TALK
February 21 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
February 24 (Tuesday)	**Annapolis, MD** - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Requested - Limited Walk-In Contact: Lois Turner KA3VVQ (410)647-4178

March 1 (Sunday)	**Landover, MD** - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
	Elkins, WV - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506

March 14 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

March 19 (Thursday)	**Manchester, MD** - Hanover Area Hamming Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred - Walk-Ins Accepted Contact: Ed Davis KE2FN (410)239-8488

TRAINING CLASSES

GENERAL CLASS COURSE: The Laurel Amateur Radio Club (LARC) will offer a free GENERAL CLASS license upgrade class starting on Monday, February 2, 1998. The class will run 8 consecutive Monday evenings, from 7-9 PM, at 384 Main Street in Laurel, Maryland with a VE test session at the last class. For more information or to register please contact: Pud Reaver W3YD at (301)498-6293, e-mail: preaver@erols.com or Jim Cross WI3N at (301)725-6829, e-mail: jcross3@erols.com.

ENTRY LEVEL COURSE: Explorer Post 80, the Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club: (MVARC) and the First Christian Church of Alexandria, Virginia will present an entry-level course leading to the Amateur Radio Technician (No-Code) class license. The course will be presented on one weekday evening and three successive Saturdays beginning on January 14, 1998. The location for the course is the First Christian Church, 2723 King Street, Alexandria, VA. The charge for the course is $20 for which the text, hand-outs, and software will be provided at cost. A VE exam will be administered at the completion of the course. For further information and to register for the course, contact: Bill Schmitt KD4CNS at 703-960-9301 or e-mail at wmaschmitt@aol.com.

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

Alexandria Radio Club

Meetings: Second Friday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Alexandria Fire Department Administrative Office (co-located with Fire Station #54), 900 Second St., Alexandria, VA
Nets: Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 147.315 output / 147.915 input. (W4HFH repeater)
Web page: http://members.aol.com/N4CWP/W4HFH.HTML (or search on Yahoo: W4HFH or Alexandria Radio Club).
Information: Rich -KA4GFY, 703-644-3920.

The past year was a good one for the Alexandria Radio Club. Membership has grown by 12 members this year. The reasons for the growth are good programs, monthly technical briefings, and more club activities.

Some of our programs this year have included topics on amateur satellites, RC aircraft, PCS, and amateur television. We want to take the opportunity to say thanks to all the guest speakers for taking the time to attend our meetings. Without your help, we could not have made improvements this past year. Good programs really do attract prospective members.

We started a monthly technical briefing this year. Each month, we cover a different facet of the technical side of amateur radio. Topics such as antennas, power supplies, and converting commercial equipment to amateur use have been presented. We plan to continue, and slant the briefings towards amateurs who want to upgrade. There are plenty of topics to cover, and it's a painless way to learn the necessary material.

Transmitter hunting has become a monthly event (during warmer weather), with the winner receiving a copy of an ARRL publication, and the opportunity to be the hidden transmitter the next month. It's a lot of fun, and the skills learned do have a practical application. Transmitter hunting season resumes in the spring when the weather warms up. As always, we continue to provide support for the public service activities in the area, with support that was key to the success of two different activities during the year.

Along with the activities, some members of the club have been operating on 6 meters. While not a new mode and/or band, 6 meters has been underused. Our repeater technical consultant sponsors a 6 meter repeater in Alexandria, and makes it available for club use. We are also looking at encouraging activity on 10 meters, particularly 10 FM.

More people are attending meetings, and finding out about us. If you haven't been to one of our meetings yet, mark your calendar for the second Friday of each month. This is not the same old radio club.

73, Rich, KA4GFY

AARC Anne Arundel Radio Club

Meetings: 8 PM 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge & Wayson Roads off MD Rt. 214 near Annapolis.
On the air: 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 MHz.
Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035.
Information: Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229.

More than 80 persons attended the second tour of the radio transmitting facility in Annapolis on October 16th. Until January 1995 this station was fully operational and off limits for security reasons.

Those on the tour saw the huge hand-blown vacuum tubes, the room which is actually a gigantic capacitor, the hand-crafted wooden equipment frames, and all the other electronic equipment which made this one of the world's most powerful radio transmitters. So much interest has been expressed by persons who missed both tours, that John Cummings/N3ZCE has requested and been granted a third tour. The time, sometime after the first of the year, has not yet been set.

On Sunday October 5th AARC members gathered at 7 AM at Southern High School in Harwood to provide communications for the Annapolis Striders' Metric Marathon. There were approximately 200 runners with little or no problems.

The Ham Shack in the AARC clubhouse has been open the last few Saturday mornings for antenna building sessions and to acquaint more members with the radio equipment available for their use.

The following slate was presented by the nominating committee for voting on December 4th:

President:	Dick McKelvie/KE3HQ
Vice-Pres:	Norman Chipps/N3RZU
Secretary:	Stephen Grant/N3VAR
Treasurer:	Bob Israel/WC3I
Directors:	Dave Evartt/N6TAU
	Lew Hendrixson/N3IJK
	Bill Smith/N3SZW

New officers of the club will be honored at the annual Awards Banquet which will be held at Busch's Chesapeake Inn on January 16th. Awards will also be given to various members who have contributed significantly to the club during 1997,

At the clubhouse on November 8th, Oscar Ramsey/NV3G, Charles Tiemeyer/W3RMD and Robert Kammer/N3POX gave eight tests to five persons. Two exams were passed with one upgrade. Other members of the testing team were Coordinator Bob Israel/WC3I, Harlan Ray III/AA3FE, Herb Elkin/NA1VY, Bettye Tiemeyer/K3VRZ and Holly Bevan/N3MB. The next testing session at the clubhouse will be January 10.

Member upgrades include: Greg Mills/N3XKM and John Cummings/N3ZCE to General and Nick Yokanovich/N3YVW to Advanced.

Chris Kuhn, formerly N3GUA) is now KU3HN and Stephen Bonk (formerly KJ4G) is now W3OU.

73, Holly/N3MB

Antietam Radio Association

Meetings: First and Third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Washington County Regional Airport, Showalter Road, Hagerstown, Maryland.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD. 21741
Nets: Tuesday 7 p.m. 146.940 MHz.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 447.975 MHz.; Thursday 7 p.m. 147.090 MHz.
Repeaters: 147.09+ and 146.94 -.
Information: Donnie Sue Mulligan/KB3AOO (301) 582-2984

Hope everyone is looking forward to that first minute of the New Year, January 1, 1998.

We were entertained/taught quite a lot by Bob Long/KD3JK on the subject of Traffic Handling at our ARA meeting on October 21. It was very interesting and informative.

Some members of the ARA communicated for the 71st Mummers' Day Parade on November 1. THANKS to all the ARA HAMs that participated in the parade. What is a MUMMER? I read in the

HERALD-MAIL (the Hagerstown paper) that a mummer can be anyone who dresses up in a mask or a disguise of some sort. had wondered...now I know.

It rained almost all day that Saturday, Nov.1, but cleared up in time for the parade. Most of the marchers, riders, etc. were happy about that. The city of Hagerstown didn't have as many spectators as they thought, but there were about 50,000.

Amanda Daywalt/N3TVD resigned her position as secretary/treasurer because of her job and school. She would not come to the meetings until t late for the minutes. I volunteered to help Amanda. I was voted in as secretary on November 18. Amanda and I will split the treasurer's job. Thank you for staying on as treasurer, Amanda! Just hope I do as well as you on the secretary's duties. I will do my best.

We communicated for the 35th annual John Fitzgerald Kennedy 50-Mile Ultramarathon on Saturday, November 22. There were 719 finishers in the race, shattering the record for ultramarathons in the United States.

Eric Clifton of Crownsville, Maryland was the winner with 6 hours, 9 minutes, and 16 seconds. There was a tie for the first-woman runner: Virginia Rebekah Trittipoe and Bridget Brunnick made the finish line at 7 hours, 44 minutes, and 10 seconds.

The runners started near Boonsboro High School and ran 50 miles through the rain-soaked Appalachian Trail and the muddy C&O Canal to Springfield Middle School in Williamsport, MD. We want to say Thanks to all the HAMs that communicated and made the race a lot of fun. Especially to "Bicycle Mobile", Stan/W3YGC, our hats are off to you! There are many more I would like to thank but I can not name all of you here. You know who you are!

Have a Happy New Year.

73, Donnie Sue/KB3AOO

Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Red Cross building, 4333 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA. Nonmembers welcome!
Net: Tuesdays (except meeting nights), 7:30 P.M., 144.87/145.47 Mhz FM.
Information: Mike Callaham, NW3V @ WA3TAI, callaham@tmn.com, (703) 241-5618.
WWW: http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/4306/

December 16 Meeting

The election of officers for 1997 will take place at the December meeting. Additional nominations for club officers can be made at the meeting. The following nominations were made at the November meeting: for President: Jack, WA4FXX; for Vice President: Dennis, W4PWF; for Secretary: Mike, KA8OPJ; for Treasurer: Tom, N4BYF; for Activities Chairman: Mike, NW3V.

The December meeting will also feature the traditional holiday season party and the second half of the ARRL videotape, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Antennas...but Were Afraid to Ask", of Frank Rutter, K3AW (SK), at the JHU APL in 1981. It was screened by WA4FXX at the Nov. meeting but not finished due to lack of time.

November 21st Meeting

President Mike, NW3V, called the meeting to order at 1938 hours. Dennis, W4PWF, served as Acting Secretary. Present were members Mike, NW3V; Dennis, W4PWF; George, KR4MU; Tom, N4BYF; Jack, WA4FXX; Mike, KA8OPJ; and visitors David Dill, KF4JAA, and Keith Akins, KF4QXO.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as published in the November 1997 issue

of the Beacon with the following revision submitted by Walt, KT4EL: replace the words "to secure needed parts" to read "to be nice to his YF." The minutes were approved as revised.

Members and visitors introduced themselves. Both David and Keith work at Roland House, a video post-production firm in Arlington. David moved to Falls Church recently from Birmingham, AL. He is interested in homebrewing (of the amateur radio type!) and CW. Keith's OM is a packeteer in Pepperell, MA. Keith passed his Tech Plus exam after studying for a week.

Treasurer Tom, N4BYF, presented his financial report. The November sweepstakes were discussed. It appeared that there were no entries from the Club.

New Business: An alternative to providing the newsletter to the members by mail was discussed. Email was one of the alternatives. It was agreed that we should explore this approach as well as others in more depth at a future meeting.

Nominations: A full, but not necessarily final, slate of officers was nominated. Walt, KT4EL, had informed Mike, NW3V, that he will not be a candidate for Secretary, as he will be away for very extended periods of time in 1998.

FAR: The Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) report was provided by Dennis, W4PWF. The FAR meeting was held on November 12 at the Lee Center in Alexandria, VA. George, KR4MU and Dennis, W4PWF, are the AARC Trustees. Both were in attendance at the meeting.

Program: The meeting was adjourned at 2026 hours. The scheduled program on antennas was then held. It included a screening of the ARRL videotape, Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Antennas...but Were Afraid to Ask, of Frank Rutter, K3AW (SK) at the JHU APL in 1981. Due to a lack of time, only the first half of the tape was screened. The remaining portion of the program will be screened at the December meeting.

Red Cross Again Thanks AARC

"Special Thanks to Our Corporate & Business Sponsors," on page 3 of the Fall 1997 issue of "Crossroads", the newsletter of the Arlington Chapter of the American Red Cross, lists the Arlington Amateur Radio Club among those giving in-kind donations of goods and/or services valued at $1,000 to $2,400 between January 1, 1996, and June 30, 1997.

73, Mike - NW3V

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at Dulaney High School, 225 E Padonia Rd, shop #3... (June through Sept 97). -First Wednesday of the month -business meeting, Third Wednesday of the month - program.
Repeaters: W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-), 224.24 (-) (no PL) and 449.625(-)(PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz. repeaters are linked.
Club Net: Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm on 146.67/224.24.
NTS Net: Daily at 6:30 pm on 146.670/ 224.240
Club BBS: (410) 252-6238 (min. 2400 baud)
Information: (410) HAMTALK
Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST.
Club Address: BARC, Inc., P.O. BOX 120, Reisterstown MD 21136

BARC HOLIDAY EVENT

The annual holiday gathering was held on December 17 at the American Legion hall in Towson. Highlights will be provided in the February issue.

Continued on page 31

Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Post Holiday Hamfest
Sunday—January 25, 1998
8:00 am till 2:00 pm

(Vendor Set-Up at 6:00 am)

Odenton Vol. Fire Dept. Hall
1425 Annapolis Road (RT. 175)

(Located on RT 175, 9 Miles East of I-95)
TALK- IN ON 146.805 / .205

For General Information / Table Reservations, contact:
Bill KA6TYY at (410) 987-2384 / E-mail ka6tyy@juno.com
or Mail a Donation of $7.00 (COVERS TABLE & ONE OPERATOR) to:

M.M.A.R.C.
ATTN : BILL ZIEGLER
1307 Ashburton Drive
Millersville, MD 21108

Deadline for Mail-In Reseverations is 1/10/98

FOR V.E. TESTING INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION CONTACT:
Jerry - NU3D at (410) 761-1423

Local Area Nets

Compiled by Al Brown - KZ3AB

Note: Neither the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) nor Al Brown, KZ3AB, guarantees the accuracy of this list and cannot be held accountable for inaccuracies. The information contained herein was compiled from published information and personal correspondence from various club members. Corrections should be sent to: Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR), c/o Al Brown KZ3AB, 8645 Tower Drive, Laurel, MD 20723.

Notes:
* All times are local unless otherwise indicated.
* Frequencies are in MHz.
* Standard repeater input freq. offsets (+ or -).
* S = Simplex
* USB = Upper Side-band
* LSB = Lower Side-band
* CW = Continuous Wave; i.e., Morse code.

Sunday

1500 UTC

14.316 USB US Dept of State Foreign Service

1530 UTC

21.416 USB US Dept of State Foreign Service

1600 UTC

28.416 USB US Dept of State Foreign Service

9:00 AM

50.400 Metropolitan Communications
146.790 - QCWA Chapter 91

7:30 PM

146.955 - Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
147.060 + Frederick Co ARES

2359 UTC

28.435 USB Chesapeake Bay Chapter, 10-10 Int'l

8:00 PM

28.360 USB Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

8:00 PM (cont'd)

144.970 S Metrovision Amateur TV Club (ATV Net audio)
438.0-444.0 Metrovision Amateur TV Club (ATV Net video)
145.210 - DC Amateur Radio Emergency Services
146.805 - Anne Arundel Co ARES
147.030 + BRATS Listening Post Net
147.360 + Metropolitan Comm. Network
147.480 S Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

8:30 PM

147.000 - National Capitol DX Association

9:00 PM

146.835 - AMSAT
146.910 - National Capitol ARES

Monday

6:30 PM

3.963 LSB Old Dominion Emergency Net (3rd Monday only)

7:00 PM

146.490 S Leisure World Amateur Radio Club

7:30 PM

146.640 - St. Mary's Co. ARES
147.030 + BRATS Horsetraders Net
147.060 + Frederick County ARES Net

8:00 PM

146.640 - St Mary's County ARES Net (Except national holidays)
146.790 - Northern Virginia FM Association
146.805 - Anne Arundel ARES Net
147.240 + Woodbridge Wireless

8:30 PM

146.805 - MMARC Traffic and Information

9:00 PM

147.030 + BRATS Traffic and Info Net
147.285 + QCWA Chapter #20

Tuesday

7:00 PM

146.940 - Antietam Radio Association

7:30 PM

144.870 + Arlington Amateur Radio Club (Except 3rd Tuesday)
145.330 - Baltimore County ARES Net
145.350 - Adams County (PA) Amateur Radio Society
145.470 - Arlington ARC (except meeting nights)
146.640 - St. Mary's Bottom County Net
146.685 - Vienna Emergency Net
147.120 + Culpepper ARA
147.135 + Howard County ARES Net

8:00 PM

28.350 USB Potomac River Ten Meter Net
145.310 - Dulles Amateur Radio Group
146.460 S Montgomery County ARES Net
146.910 - NVFMA Swap Net
147.060 + Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Association
147.150 + Southern Maryland ARC

8:30 PM

145.410 - Carroll County Amateur Radio Emergency Team
146.655 - Mt. Vernon ARC (moves to 28.408 MHz USB)

8:30 PM (cont'd)

146.670 - Baltimore ARC
147.135 + Columbia ARA
224.240 - Baltimore ARC

9:00 PM

145.350 - Prince Georges County ARES Net

9:30 PM

145.230 - Central Maryland ARC

Wednesday

7:00 PM

447.975 - Antietam Radio Association

7:30 PM

146.790 - Northern VA FM Association (Equipment Clinic - 1st Wednesday)

8:00 PM

1.865 LSB Southern Maryland ARC
28.315 USB Four State HF Net
145.110 - Capital City Amateur Radio Society
145.410 - Mason Dixon Swap Net (CARET)
146.640 - St Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
146.790 - Northern VA FM Association
144.970 S Metrovision Amateur TV Club (ATV Net audio)
438.0-444.0 Metrovision Amateur TV Club (ATV Net video)
444.400 - Anne Arundel Radio Club

8:30 PM

147.135 + Columbia Amateur Radio Club (Except 4th Tuesday)
147.225 + Laurel ARC (1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays)

9:00 PM

147.165 + Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

Continued next page

Thursday

7:00 PM

147.090 +	Antietam Radio Association Four States Net

8:00 PM

28.447 USB	Southern Maryland ARC
146.970 -	Ole Virginia Hams
147.315 +	Alexandria Radio Club
224.660	Ole Virginia Hams

8:30 PM

145.450 -	Maryland Apple Dumpling RAS (1st and 3rd Thursdays. PL-5A)
28.340 USB	Goddard Amateur Radio Club
147.105 +	Anne Arundel Radio Club (2nd, 4th & 5th Thursdays)
145.190 -	Simulcast-Dept of State & Voice of America
146.940 -	Simulcast-Dept of State & Voice of America

9:00 PM

145.110 -	Capital City Amateur Radio Society (RTTY until 9:45 PM, then voice)
146.835 -	Goddard Amateur Radio Club
147.030 +	BRATS ATV Net

Friday

8:30 PM

146.415 S	Virginia District 2 ARES Net

Saturday

1:00 PM

147.030 +	BRATS News Bulletins

1:20 PM

147.030 +	BRATS The Answer Men

8:00 PM

52.250	Metro Communications Network

Daily Nets

9:30 AM

146.880 -	Old Gents' Net

6:00 PM

3.920 LSB	Maryland Emergency Phone Net

6:30 PM

146.670 -	Baltimore Traffic Net
146.880 -	Old Gents' Net

7:00 PM

3.643 CW	MDD (CW NTS Early Session)

7:15 PM

146.820 -	Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net

7:30 PM

147.300 +	Northern Virginia Traffic Net
3.717 CW	Maryland Slow Net (CW NTS)

8:30 PM

28.390 CW	Vienna Wireless Society (CW Slow)

9:00 PM

28.444 USB	Vienna Wireless Society (Pow-Wow)

10:00 PM

3.643 CW	MDD (CW NTS Late Session)

Special Nets

SKYWARN

147.300 +	Main Net from Bluemont, VA
145.350 -	Southern MD
147.090 +	Hagerstown/Central Maryland

BAY WEATHER NET

147.105 +	Anne Arundel Radio Club (Saturday & Sunday at 11:00 AM & 3:00 PM from Apr 1-Nov 15 only)

[This list is up to date as of 1 October 1997]

FREE HAMFEST

The annual BARC- It's FREE - Minifest is all set for Wednesday, January 21, in the Exhibit Hall at Timonium Fairgrounds. This hamfest is FREE to exhibitors and shoppers alike. If you wish to exhibit, set up a table from the supply provided, and clean up when you're done. The event gets underway around 4 PM, and is in full swing by 7 PM. All hams are invited to attend as well as to sell off that stuff that's in the way. No tricks or traps, a free event for all to enjoy.

NEW HAM CLASS

N3VEJ, Doug, will be teaching a New Hams class at Cockeysville Middle School starting February 23. If you are interested in registering, leave a message at 410-HAM-TALK, mailbox 3835. This is an eight week class, with optional test session on the ninth week.

REPEATER UPDATE

A new receive site is online for the 146.07/67 repeater. The site provides great coverage for the I-95 corridor in Harford county. Testing is underway to determine the real coverage capability of the site, but it is expected to cover most of Harford county and additional areas beyond.

HAMBOREE - Free admission available

If you would like to get free admission to the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest, host to the Maryland State Convention, then call us about working on the hamfest. This is one of the biggest hamfests within five or more states, and it takes a lot of people to cover the gates, parking and all the other needs. You also get a free lunch. Call 410-ham-talk, mailbox 3994 and leave information including name and address so that registration information can be sent to you. Do not wait until the last minute, we plan the manpower needs in January. Call today! CLUBS- Come as a group, put together a team and let us know how many and when you are available. Where your club colors while you work!

MEETINGS

The January business meeting will be held on January 7 at 7:30 at Dulaney High School. There is no program meeting in January; the night is devoted to the BARC- It's FREE - Minifest.

The February business meeting will be held the first Wednesday. On the third Wednesday, we'll have our program meeting. The topic may be long-wave spectrum usage. Stay tuned, or call HAM-TALK for more info.

Another meeting occurs weekly, the club net on Tuesdays at 8:30 PM. Tune in to the repeater and check in to share in the current news and activities.

That's it from here. We hope everyone is enjoying the holidays with family and loved ones.

73, Doug N3VEJ

Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.
Repeater: W3EIL 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.
Nets: Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs, RTTY net Thursdays 2100 hrs, voice portion 2145 hrs, all on 145.110.
Mailing Address: CCARS, 1719 Franklin Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20018-2033.
Information: Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Chester, W3EIL (202) 529-9598, Joe K3UAL (301) 773-5074 EMail K3UAL @Juno.com.

KNOW YOUR CLUB MEMBERS

A native of Hopewell, Virginia, Weaver Shepperson, 'Shep' as he is known to the amateur radio community, has been an avid Ham Radio

Operator for many years, first licensed in 1977. He earned his Extra Class license in 1980. 'Shep' cultivated an interest early in life for radio, getting an education in the Virginia Public School System. He increased his knowledge of radio by constructing many electronic projects in his youth.

During his Army career he attended Communication School at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, where he took code lessons. This course gave 'Shep' a good general knowledge of radio.

When he lost his sight in 1964 'Shep' realized that Ham Radio would be a good hobby and went for it. He has been an inspiration for many handicapped and sighted persons seeking to enter the hobby.

His first government employment was at the Washington Navy Yard as a machinist and electrician. He retired from the Smithsonian Institution. 'Shep' has earned the WAS, WAC and is working on his DXCC. He is a member of CCARS and OMIK.

Carroll County Amateur Radio Emergency Team & Radio Club

Address: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 2099, Westminster, MD 21158.
Repeaters: 2M: 145.410-, 70cm: 449.875, 6M: 53.090.
BBS: 145.03 & 446.075.
Nets: Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. local CARET Net 145.410-. Wednesdays: 8:00 p.m. local, Mason Dixon Swap Net 145.410-.
Club Meetings: Business meeting Second Monday of the month at the EOC in Wesmnister. 7:30 p.m. local, talk-in: 145.410- Program meeting: Last Wednesday of the month at the EOC in Wesmnister. 7:30 p.m. local, talk-in: 145.410-.

The November Sweepstakes was fun. That is a statement that you will hear from those who participated in the event. It wasn't Field Day, but the excitement was just the same. In fact, there was a few operators so involved with the excitement that they were reluctant to put down the microphone! I am sure that the score will reflect that excitement. The cake was delicious.

Getting together at the club station not only keeps the dust balls away, but effectuate solidarity. Thanks Steve N3SB, and all the crew that worked the contest.

The 10 Meter contest is on the weekend of the 13th. Anybody up for that? The 10 Meter band has been open quite regularly now. The performance of the contest crew may show very well in this event, too.

What a year! Since April, each month this club has been busy with a radio event giving all those who choose to get involved a great opportunity to practice emergency preparedness, contesting, and enjoy what HAM radio is all about. We are more active than the Boy Scouts.

There is an interesting article in QST this month titled "Hospital Emergency Communications — Fulfilling the Mission." I read this article with special attention because during the SET, we setup a station at the Carroll Community Hospital.

Congrats to Dave, KG6TU and Phil, KE3FL who garner PSHR.

Is there any interest in having a training class? I have heard from people wanting to get their licenses, but state that they may be better able to study attending a class.

Our club meeting for December will be at Wilhelm caterers on Wednesday, December 10 at 7 PM. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Instead of business, we're having a dinner party! See you there.

If I don't get a chance to talk to you before next year — have a safe, joyous, Merry Christmas!

73 de WX3F

Dulles Amateur Radio Group

On-the-air meeting: Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the Dulles Airport repeater: N4FSC 145.310-
Mail: Dulles Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 20172-1964
Home Page: http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/8873
Email: dulles_arg@geocities.com
Club callsign: W4DLS
Information: Mike Weber, WB8RDN, 703-450-2304.

The Dulles Amateur Radio Group (DARG) is a family-oriented ham radio club affiliated with the N4FSC repeater in Dulles, VA. Membership is open to all, and the club holds several social and operating events each year. Dues are $20/yr for your entire family; members have access to the repeater's autopatch, and dues include a 1 year subscription or renewal to AutoCall. All area hams are warmly invited to join our information net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm on the N4FSC repeater, 145.310-.

DARG sponsored an ARRL/VEC exam session on 15 November 1997.

Preparations continue for the DARG Holiday party on 13 December. This is always the highlight of the DARG social season, and everyone is looking forward to a fine family evening. The big event as always will be a raffle for some fabulous ham radio prizes. Watch next month's column for the names of the winners.

DARG hopes everyone enjoyed the Holiday season, and we're looking forward to another year of fun and community service in Ham Radio.

73 de Mike, N4PDY

Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

Meeting: 7:30 p.m., Second Thursday of the month except July, August and December. Crestar Bank, Warrenton Ctr, Warrenton VA.
Breakfast: Last Saturday of the month at Western Sizzlin Warrenton VA 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Net:Every Wednesday, 9:00 p.m, 147.165 Mhz NZ4N Repeater
Packet: KE4YVU FARA7 node 145.070 Mhz with direct connect to FBBS9, FBBS9 Bulletin Board 145.090 Mhz, FARA9 node 145.090 Mhz.
Repeater: NZ4N/R 147.165 Mhz (+0.600).
Newsletter: TOROID, Monthly. Deadline for submissions: 20th of the month. Contact Bonnie, n4qpb@mnsinc.com.
Info: Chuck Gould, N4YXW 540-347-0112. FARA, PO Box 752, Warrenton VA 20187
Web: http://www.mnsinc.com/ki4ro/fara.htm.
Next meeting: October 9th, Crestar Bank.
Fall Technician FCC license classes: Thursday evenings at Crestar Bank in Warreton - contact Neil Spokes 540 364 3681

FARA enjoyed an active fall season with well attended club meetings and monthly breakfasts, an amateur radio class, FCC exam and public service activities. The accommodations at the Crestar Bank for the meetings and classes are superb and gratefully enjoyed by the membership.

At our October meeting we had the pleasure of hearing from FARA club member Will Marchant, KC4ROL, about the latest progress on ham activities planned for the International Space Station. We can't wait to see/hear the astronaut hams up there in the ISS and in communication with us for space DX.

At the November meeting, Neil, AB4YK, FARA Secretary and class instructor presented information on the FCC's RF Safety requirements

and the compliance requirements. Most ham's activities do not involve harmful RF safety environments, but we do need to be vigilant, act wisely and pass on the new knowledge that we now have.

The ARRL's 60 Hz magnetic field avoidance recommendations are totally new and caused some raised eyebrows - one of our hams routinely bends his head low during CW work and gets within the 1 ft recommended avoidance distance from his 100 W rig (not an FCC safety mandate).

With brain cancer or leukemia as potential negative outcomes, this avoidance distance may be a piece of advice that needs to be followed. But, as the ARRL is quick to point out, the association of magnetic fields and negative outcome is not as strong as the connection of lung cancer and one pack a day cigarette smoking. Research on this subject is continuing. ARRL's recommended approach is a wise course of action.

Two of FARA's young ham members upgraded from Technician to General this fall - congratulations to Craig Heffner, KF4NYZ and Nicholas, KF4RMM. Two class members gained their first amateur tickets at FARA's Fall FCC exam: Dustin White, KF4UQF and Luke White, KF4UQG.

At the November elections, FARA's 1998 officers were decided: Chuck, N4YXW, was re-elected for a second term as President; John, KI4RO, Vice President; Craig, KF4NYZ, Secretary; George, WD4KOJ, Treasurer; Sheila, KB4USU, will again be Program Chairperson. The new officers take over duties January 1, 1998, the last activity of 1997, being the December 13 party at United Methodist Church in Marshall.

A Happy New Year to all, from FARA with lots of good DX and the fellowship of the Amateur Radio community in the Greater Metropolitan area.

Happy New Year to all, AB4YK, FARA Secretary

Green Mountain Repeater Association

Repeaters: *146.61 Cheverly, *146.88 Greenbelt. *(Autopatch).
Information: Don Tinari, W3RYQ, (301) 262-7062.
Mail: P.O. Box 523, Bowie, MD. 20718.
E-mail: mgreen@erols.com.
Socials: Luncheon, 1st Saturday of each month at 11:30 A.M., Laurel Centre Indoor Mall Eatery.
Nets: 146.88 - Old Gent's Net, 9:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. every day. Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Association Net, every Thursday at 9:30 P.M.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON/BUSINESS MEETING

Although you are reading this article in late December, we are writing it in the middle of November, a little too soon to report on the subject. I can tell you this however. As an added incentive to the luncheon, there will be (has been) a drawing for an ALINCO 440 HT. The lucky winner will be announced in the next column. I hope you attended.

GMRA IN QST AGAIN

We have been very fortunate to have two more articles published in QST and a third one that is not associated with the club but written by your column editor. Look for:

December 97: FM & REPEATERS column, "The Internet - Repeater Connection". January 98: Feature Story, "More Than Radio Spans the Oceans". January 98: How's DX column, "From Zero to 329!"

EMERGENCY REPEATER USE

On the evening of November 6, Bill Riley, N3SNU, was serving as Emergency Medical Technician at one of the High Point High School football games when a player injured his hip. Although the player had movement in the joint, he was in extreme pain; enough to bring tear; a sign not taken lightly by Bill from a football player. He quickly used the 146.88 Greenbelt repeater to autopatch 911 for an ambulance. "The system works" writes Bill, except that after all was said and done, he noticed that his HT was in the low power position. (Ed Note: Congrats Bill on a quick response to an emergency situation. And thanks to our Technical Committee for maintaining the repeaters so that they are immediately available for emergency use, even with a low power HT.)

A SPECIAL THANKS!

A special thanks to our Treasurer, Don Tinari, W3RYQ who has the demanding job of maintaining members names, callsigns, residence and email addresses, telephone numbers, class of license and ARRL membership numbers. He and his partner of over 40 years, Ethel, additionally prepare envelopes and labels for all GMRA mailings. Don also does the paperwork for ARRL renewals and new memberships that are routed through GMRA for rebates.

And if this were not enough, Don does the bookkeeping associated with dues and contributions from new and renewed members, payment of bills for repeater electricity, telephone lines, insurance and repeater maintenance. And in his spare time he sends out welcome correspondence to all new members. Whew! Thank you Don and Ethel for your unselfish service to the GMRA.

FATE OR COINCIDENCE?

Each Veterans Day, Joe, KD3VR, and his spouse Allie, WB3AOA, visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Joe is a Vietnam veteran and pays his respects to lost friends as well as trying to meet surviving members of his outfit. As usual, a number of Gold Star mothers, (those who lost their sons to the war) were also visiting the Memorial. Joe and Allie make it a point to greet and introduce themselves as a matter of courtesy, respect and warmth.

That afternoon, they came upon an elderly woman from Michigan who was visiting the Memorial in hopes of meeting someone who may have served with her son. After the usual greeting the mother mentioned her son's name and outfit to Joe. Call it fate, coincidence, luck, whatever, but inside Joe's wallet were four names of Vietnam soldiers he served with and whose names are engraved on the Memorial. One of those names was the son of this Gold Star mother!

That evening, the mother was the guest of Joe and Allie for dinner and a visit to their home. Yes, it is a small world, but sometimes I get the impression that the twist of fate takes some very compassionate turns.

1998 RENEWALS

Just a reminder that GMRA renewals for 1998 are due by December 31 1997. Applications were mailed out with the Fall/Winter issue of the GMRA Newsletter. If you have not received one, please contact Treasurer, Don Tinari, W3RYQ, at 301-262-7062 or send an email to mgreen@erols.com. New repeater autopatch/autodial codes will be sent out to all new and renewed members in early January.

THE BEST OF HOLIDAYS

On behalf of the GMRA may I wish all members and their families a most happy holiday season. We have been very fortunate and grateful to have you as a member of one of Maryland's oldest, friendliest and most progressive repeater organizations. May 1998 be your very best!

73 de Murray, K3BEQ

Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM,In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).
Club Station: W3GR.
Info: Herman Turner, WK3P (410) 647-4178.
Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore , MD 21203.
Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

At the November meeting a slate of officers for 1998 was nominated from the floor as follows:

President: Nick Yokanovich NYVW
Vice President: Les Jamison WR3X
Secretary: Alan Raichel N3IKI
Treasurer: Ernie Farkas K3CBW

The election will be held at the December 1998 meeting.

The operation of the GAP antenna was not up to par and a team volunteered to look into the problem. On Saturday November 22 the team located some installation problems and by the end of the day respectable SWR was realized at operating power.

Chuck Angel, AA3FB reported that the BC-610 is almost ready with the exception of a defunct RF meter. A replacement has been located and is on the way.

The annual dues were discussed and the yearly vote taken. The dues will remain at $8.00 per year for 1998.

TOWER ANYONE?

HEMARC is looking for a good but modest tower for its Tri-Band Yagi. 30ish feet would be fine. Call Herman Turner WK3P 410-647- 4178 if you know of one being available. There is a tax deduction for donating it to the Museum.

The technical session was a presentation which explained and showed small homebrew keyers based on the K8 Keyer Chip. Two versions were demonstrated by Herman Turner WK3P and they worked very well. Everyone was impressed with the flexibility and capability-especially at the modest cost of material.
Training Programs

Ray Robley, KD3KK and Heru Wamsley, W3WVV are well along with the Hands On Elmering class. Rol Anders, K3RA is quite pleased with progress of many of the students in the class to upgrade to General.

HEMARC sends best wishes to the FAR community for an outstanding 1998 for Amateur Radio in our area and invites every club to consider having a meeting in the Museum. We will roll out the red carpet.

73 de Chip, W4PBG

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

Meetings: Third Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the El Rancho Plus restaurant. Call for directions, if needed.
Nets: Every Sunday evening at 8:00 p.m. on 28.360 SSB; informal get togethers at morning and evening commute times on 147.480 simplex.
Mailings: Loudoun Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 1004, Purcellville, VA 20134
Information: Gary Quinn, NC4S, (540)822-5690; or John Unger (540)338-4620

The past few months have been active times for the LARG. Under the direction of Paul, N4PS, our club planned and carried out its first amateur radio licensing class.

We had 9 perspective hams take our novice/ technician class during September and October. The class was given at the Ida Lee Rec Center in Leesburg. We are considering giving this class again in the spring if there is enough interest. So if you know of anyone in western Loudoun County or anywhere else nearby who is interested in getting his or her ticket, let us know.

Our last few club meetings have been well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy the VHF propagation talk given by Paul, K4MSG, and the HF propagation discussion led by John, W4AU. One of the highlights of the year is our "mini-hamfest". This event is for club members only and all items offered have to be approximately $5.00 or less. It seems to be a great way to clean out the ole' junk box and replace those items with something new. And if you don't like what you purchased, just bring it back to the next mini-fest.

Under the leadership of Norm, AI2C, LARG has organized a annual 10 meter DX contest just for our own members. We are trying to encourage members to get on the air and try the HF bands, especially now since the sun spots are on the increase and 10 meter propagation promises to be improving rapidly. We will start this event in 1998 and plan to make it an annual contest. The club will give out trophies and certificates for different classes and modes. It should be a lot of fun. Some other clubs might want to join in with similar events of their own.

As usual, LARG will provide communications for the annual Leesburg First Night, a New Year's Eve celebration taking place in downtown Leesburg. It's a chance for us to hone our 2 meter HT skills and survival techniques for cold winter nights.

We will have no scheduled meeting in December, but will have election of officers at the next regular meeting which will be held on January 17, 1998. Stop by and join us for a hot country breakfast and some ham fellowship in Purcellville!

Happy Holiday Greetings to amateurs everywhere!

The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M. St. Paul's Church, 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, Maryland 20895.
Clubhouse:MADRAS Clubhouse,11800 Coakley Circle, Rockville, MD 20852
Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on 145.45 MHz (PL-5A).
Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A), 145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).
WWW Address: http://mvhsl.mbhs.edu/~fwright/MADRAS.html
Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902
Information: Leo Boberschmidt KA3TGY (301)946-3738, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301) 984-6114.

Happy New Year MADRAS members. We also extend New Year's greetings to all the other club members in the area. We hope that everyone had a very exciting and enjoyable holiday season and are looking forward to another rewarding year as a ham radio operator.

As we look forward to the 1998 season one can't help but reflect on the past year. Since we have elections in October, we would like to thank all the officers who were on the board during the 1997 season. We think you did a wonderful job and thank you for all your contributions to the Club.

As we welcome our new officers into the 1998 season, we say congratulations and best wishes in

your new positions and look forward to another exciting year of meetings, guest speakers and special events.

In this new world of high-technology, one often hears that building equipment is a thing of the past. Not so with the MADRAS club members. At our November 13th meeting about a dozen of our members met at the Clubhouse in Rockville and built oscillators so they could send code using their handhelds. It was a small project but for some it was the first time they had the opportunity to put together units with their own hands. You all know how it feels to be able to say "I built this myself" and how doubly proud we are when it actually works and does what it is supposed to do.

We all had such a good time with our oscillator project that now we are looking for more equipment to build and use, of course. Keep an eye on our monthly bulletins for our next building project at the Clubhouse.

Due to the holiday season we have no meetings during the month of December. We do however have our annual Christmas Dinner which took place on the 4th of December.

Our next meeting will be on January 8th and the following meeting will be on January 22nd. See you all at the next meeting.

73, Jean - N3PLC

Maryland Radio Center

3394 Fort Meade Road
Laurel, Md. 20724
(301) 725-1212

OPEN
10AM to 5PM Mon-Fri
10AM to 3PM Saturday

Kenwood, Icom, Alinco, Standard

Home of WeatherNode™
Wireless weather information to your computer.
Visit us on the Internet at http://www.weathernode.com

The Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First Friday of each month at Baldwin Hall, Millersville, MD.
Repeaters: W3CU (PL 107.2) - 146.805 & 449.125 both in Millersville, Md. W3VPR - 442.3 in Annapolis - Joint usage AARC.
Social Breakfasts: 15 days (3 Saturdays) after club mtg, at Rick's Cafe in Odenton at 9 AM.
Mailing: MMARC, P.O. Box 935, Severn, Md. 21144
Nets: 2-Meter on 146.805 @20:30 local time every Monday, 10-Meter CW practice net @19:00 Monday on 28.230 MHz.
Information: Bill Ziegler KA6TYY (410) 987-2384 (email: Zzziggy@aol.com).
Web: http://www.erols.com/wb3v/mmarc/

Greetings from the Mobileers!

MEETINGS NOW HELD AT BALDWIN HALL

Starting in January the MMARC meetings will be held at Baldwin Hall.

The location at the county Emergency Operations Center in Crownsville can no longer be used as the county is relocating to Millersville and their new space does not have the room for us to meet there. I want to thank the Anne Arundel County office of Emergency Management and especially Mr. Joe Burns for allowing us to use their facilities over the years. The new location is only about 3 miles from our old location. It is located on General's Highway (Rte 178) and at the intersection of Millersville Road. Baldwin Hall was a church in the 1800's and is now owned by the Severn Crossroad Foundation. It is a registered Historical Building.

JANUARY MEETING ON SECOND FRIDAY

The January meeting will be on 9th vice the 2nd. Since many people will be returning from

Holiday Plans we felt the second Friday was a better choice. We will go back to holding the Meeting on the First Friday in February.

MMARC HOLIDAY PARTY

December 5th. was the MMARC's Holiday Party. It was held at TIMBUKTU Restaurants in Linthicum. Bonnie, WA3UMV and Bob, AF3D, Andersen were the Chairpersons who created, planned, executed and carried the event.

They have taken on this chore for over ten years and each year it gets better and better. The work, thought and love that they put into it with home made table decorations and always having a skit or song to characterize the past year brings a special touch to the club gathering.

A gift swap was held as well as a 2 mtr HT given away which Russ Slye, N3GT, walked away with. It was a super time and many congratulations are to be given to Bob and Bonnie.

MMARC HAMFEST 25 JAN 98 at ODENTON, MD

The MMARC's Post Holiday HAMFEST will be held on SUPER BOWL

SUNDAY starting at 0800 until about 1400 at the Odenton Fire Hall. Please look at the flyer in this issue. It isn't the biggest HAMFEST around, but like all hamfest, they are always treasures to be had and what better way to fire yourself up for the Super Bowl buy checking out the HAMFEST. So, drop on by and spend a few dollars!

That's it for this month. Please note our club meeting, breakfast and net times. We would be happy to meet you and share some good "Ham Stories"!! Don't Hesitate to use our repeater if you are in the area.

73, Bill/KA6TYY

The Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Association

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, rotating locations among Hagerstown MD, Frederick MD, Martinsburg WV and Greencastle PA.
Net: Tuesday evenings at 1930 local on 147.06.
4 State10M net: Wednesdays at 2000 local on 28.315.
Repeaters: Frederick MD: 147.06, 224.20, 448.125; Martinsburg WV: 147.345.
Mailing: 230 North Potomac St., Suite 2A, Hagerstown MD 21740
Information: Voice BBS (301) 416-8447 and (301) 473-4151.
Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/madra
E-Mail: madra@juno.com

Greetings of the season! If you're a tradionalist, you may get this before the last day of Christmas (January 6 or 7, depending on the tradition). At any rate, Happy New Year and here we go into 1998. I haven't tested any of my computers yet for 2000+ dates, have you?

Speaking of testing computers, when our team of intrepid tech experts started looking into the workings of the BBS, a number of problems were found. If you've had trouble with our Voice BBS or our computer BBS, we hope you didn't spend a lot of time troubleshooting your stuff. Rick (KB8VMC) found us a new BBS card and software really cheap. By the time you read this, the computer should be back in the repeater shack. And, it should be doing a number of jobs: Voice BBS, Computer BBS, Voice Bulletins and remote repeater site control.

If you're registered with MADRA for bulletins by e-mail, we hope you haven't had trouble but apologize if you have. The club e-mail address has been changed to <madra@juno.com>. Learning to

use the new service to get the bulletins out has caused us to hit a few snags. It looks like the volume of MADRA bulletins is causing indigestion for the new e-mail service but we're working our way through that. Fire off a complaint to the new address if you haven't been getting bulletins and we'll take care of that.

It would be premature to guess at the cause of the problem, but we were getting complaints that the 147.06 (2M) repeater was causing interference on 52.525 (6M). With the help of several 6M hams, both MADRA members and friends, we got beam headings on the signal (NOT at the repeater site) and set out to track it down. Mike (W8ABC), Tim (N3VNG) and Mike (WB3LJK) formed a serious foxhunting team but, would you believe it, the signal is no longer on the air. Please contact us if you come across any repetitions of this or similar happenings.

Things that are happening in January: January 8 the VE Team will offer the first tests of 1998, in Martinsburg WV; January 15 will be the occasion for our first club dinner meeting of the year but the location wasn't determined as this was written so check the nets or the BBS, as you can, to find out where we'll be eating, drinking and making merry; FrostFest should get a bunch of us to Richmond on January 18; exams should be offered in Smithsburg on January 25.

Don't forget that ARRL VEC rules apply to MADRA testing and that you must always preregister by e-mail <veteam@aol.com> or phone. If we don't get the pre-registrations, we cancel the sessions.

73 DE N2CSQ/3

Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO CALL

are due no later than the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication!!

Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m., Executive Office Bldg, Montgomery Co. Govt Center, 101 Monroe St, Rockville. Park in underground lot G-2.
Repeaters: 146.955 (-600) & 442.750 (PL 156.7) in Rockville.
Club Net: Every Sunday night at 7:30 PM, on the MARC repeater.
Internet: http://www.qsl.net/marc
Mail: MARC, P.O. Box 611, Gaithersburg, MD 20884-0611
Information: Jeff - KZ3F (301) 258-0112
Training: Ms. Rocky Jones (301) 216-5210.

On December 3rd, Laura Galiszuski-N3VOL took the reins of office as the new President of the MARC Club along with ten other officers and directors which round out the slate for 1998. Our annual meeting and election turnout was double the size of our usual turnout.

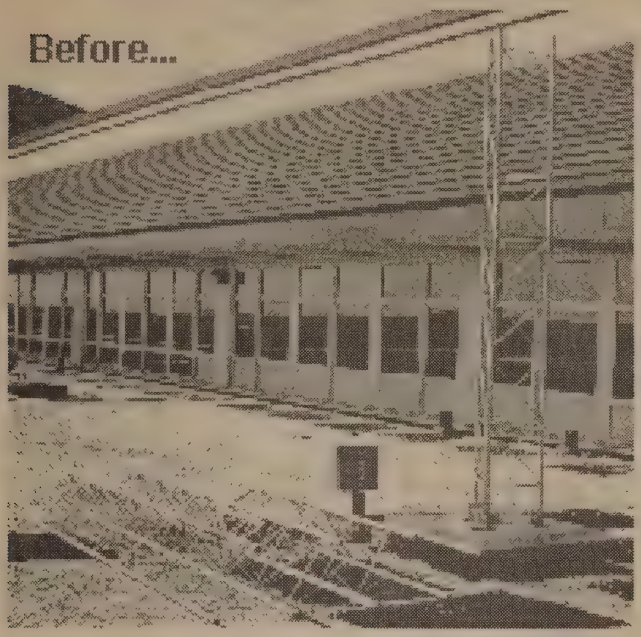
A happy, but sad goodbye

A once in a lifetime job opportunity will pull Ron Rubin-K3RON, to a VP and General Manager position in the radio broadcast industry in State College, PA. Ron has been a member of the MARC club for many years, where he just finished serving as the club's Vice President. His "broadcast" voice was the spark which successfully launched the popular Sunday Night MARC Net on the 146.955 repeater. It continues to operate over a year and a half after Ron started the first net. He will be sorely missed by many club members. We wish him well in all of his endeavors.

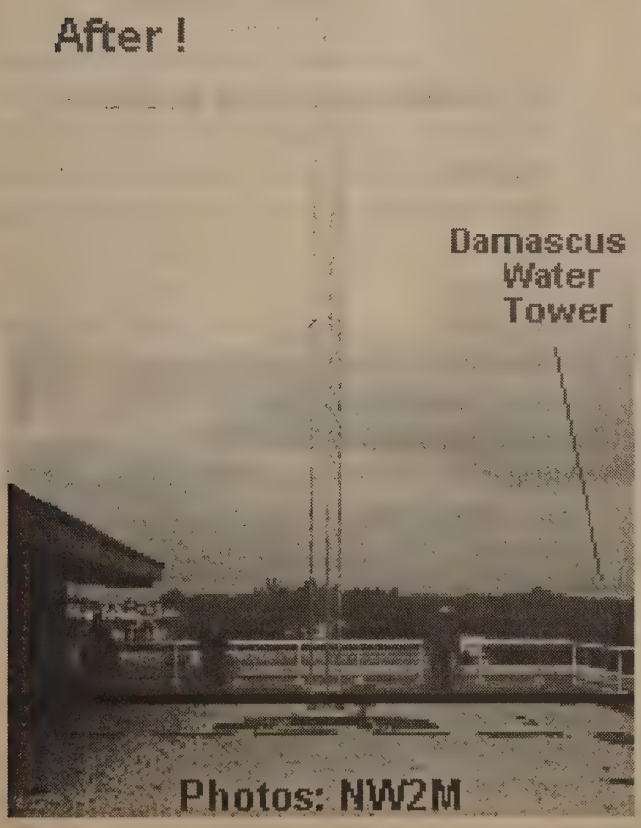
Remote Site Maintenance

The final touched were placed on the MARC repeater remote site in Germantown. And what touches indeed! A 40' tower was installed on the

roof to raise the receive-only antenna up to its old operating position.



Three Rohn 45G 10' straight sections and a 9' top section were mounted to a pre-existing antenna mount on the roof. No less than 20 club members helped with the preparation, installation, and fine tuning of this site. Rain almost forced the cancellation of the two weekends it took to install and mount the tower/antenna pair.



Four sets of guy wires were added to ensure a solid mount. Each tower pad has four associated hard-points for guying which had to be adapted to suit our needs.

The result was a tower structure worthy of the 22' tall, 4-bay, dipole array used by the remote receiver (not shown in the photos). Before the feedline was connected, Todd Brooks-N3QFZ connected his 100 milli-watt HT directly into the antenna from atop the tower. Repeater contacts from 40-80 miles confirmed that the antenna was indeed working! Feedlines were connected, weatherproofed, and secured for the winter season. This was a successful conclusion to the planning and organization which began back in May. Thanks again to all who helped. See you on 146.955.

73, Al-NW2M

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. (except December) Mt. Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parker's Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308.
Nets: Every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. Starts on 2 meters then moves to 10 meters on 28.405 MHz.
Repeater: WD4PDP 146.055 input / 146.655 output.
Mailing: Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club(MVARC) c/o Joe Salemi KR4CZ, P.O.Box 7234,Alexandria, VA 22307.
Information: Chuck W3HSW, 703-660-6623.
WEB Site: http://www.netcom.com/~jsalemi/mvarc.html

The members of MVARC and many other radio amateurs extend their sympathies to the family of

Doc, K4EK, who passed away in mid-November. Doc was one of the founders of MVARC and was the last president of the original Fort Belvoir Radio Club.

The New Year will be bringing in more club activities, including a possible move of the repeater site. Plans are being made to provide the annual support to the Chili softball tournament at Lee Park in January.

The warm weather at the beginning of Autumn brought with it some extremely strong ducting on the 146.655 repeater. Many times the New Jersey stations overrode local operators, causing some to wonder if the "2" callsigns they were hearing were from stations in our local area or in New Jersey. The condition should diminish as the weather gets cooler.

Several MVARC members provided communications support to the Franconia Days festivities at Lee Park. The group used the local repeater and simplex operation to help festival staff keep the activities moving smoothly.

On October 16 four MVARCers traveled to Annapolis to tour the US Navy's now-decommissioned high power transmitting station, NSS. Frank, AA4ZS, Steve, K3IZ, Luiz, KP4ZX and Chuck, W3HSW joined about a hundred other hams in a walk through of the station facilities. The station, last operated on 21 kilohertz, featured two transmitters running a combined output of 900 kilowatts into an elaborate antenna farm (visible from Route 50). The station sent message traffic to ships in the Atlantic and Caribbean, including submerged submarines. Many commented that the installation would make a great ham station!

Explorer Post 80 participated in the Fall Camporee, which included activities celebrating the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Scouts and Scouters set up several stations and demonstrated amateur radio to many of the nearly 2000 attendees, who turned out despite rainy weather. K3IZ lent a hand with technical and operations support. In November the Explorers used radio to coordinate their activity in the Scouting For Food drive, collecting food for the needy.

A group of MVARCers helped out with the annual Marine Corps Marathon. Hams set up voice and packet circuits to handle large volumes of logistic and medical traffic generated by the tracking of over 18000 runners.

The annual Christmas party was held at the Old Country Buffet on US-1 in Hybla Valley. It featured a self serve buffet and Christmas music that was enjoyed by all. This year's event was held out in a reserved portion of the general seating area to allow more room than was offered in the restaurant's meeting room.

Hamfesting resumes this month... See you there!

73, Chuck, W3HSW

National Capital ARES Council

The National Capital ARES Council Institute is scheduled for January 10, 8:30 - 5:00 at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. Its not too late to sign up! Just look what you might miss:

National Weather Service Basic Observer Course
Skywarn Net Control Course
Search & Rescue for Amateur Radio
When Repeaters Go Down—Simplex Operations
After the Hurricane—Lessons South Carolina Learned from Hugo
ARES/RACES Organization
Incident Command
National Traffic System Message Handling

If you missed the May 97 Institute at Bethesda, here's another chance! If you've been looking for Skywarn training, here's your chance! If you've

wondered about amateur radio's role in Search & Rescue operations, we have Marian Hardy, former Chairperson of the National Search & Rescue Association. The Next Institute will be in Virginia in Spring 1998. If you have questions about the ARES Institute, call Lenny Schachter at (202)291-2189.

To register, send a check made out to Lenny Schachter for $10.00 (to cover lunch and materials) and send it to 1811 Quincy St. NW Washington DC 20011.

Public Service Calendar: If you are interested in public service, please look for our calendar elsewhere in this publication.

Parade season is coming! Some events historically require large numbers of hams to provide communications and we encourage cooperation between volunteers from different jurisdictions. No matter where you're from, working together Is a great opportunity to get to know and learn from each other!

Check into the NCAC Public Service Net on Sunday nights at 9:00 pm on 146.91(-) for all the latest news and information!

Jeanne Rexroad, N4ZGI
DEC, Va District 2
Chairperson, National Capital ARES Council

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Licensed at least 25 years ago?
And licensed now?
Then you should belong to the
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION
For information write:
159 East 16th Ave., Dept F
Eugene, OR 97401-4017
http://www.teleport.com/~qcwa

Northern Virginia FM Association

Meetings: Fall, Winter and Spring at Virginia Power, On Rt 50 just west of the West Ox Road overpass and the Fair Oaks Mall.
Weekly Nets: NVFMA Talk Net, Mon, 8:00 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Swap Net, Tue, 8:00 PM, 146.91; NVFMA Clinic, 1st Wed of the month, 7:30 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Net, Wed, 8:00 PM, 146.79; ARES, Sun, 9 PM, 146.91.
Repeaters: 52.37/53.37, 146.19/146.79, 146.31/146.91, 222.50/224.10 Xlink, 222.74/224.34, 449.75/444.75, 447.025/442.025, 907.5/ 917.5, and 1272.1/1292.1.
Membership Info: Ann McWhirt KF4OSL, (703) 330-7429 or email to ammom @erols.com.
E-mail address: nvfma@juno.com.
Web Site: http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/5337/
Mailing Address: NVFMA, P.O. Box 486, McLean, VA 22101.

The NVFMA 440 repeaters is back on the air thanks to the efforts of Sam, KM4OI, and his installation team. The repeater now has 100 Hz CTCSS access on both the input and output according to Owen, K6LEW, NVFMA President. Your Association's next General Membership meeting is set for 15 January 1998 at the Virginia Power Company's offices on U.S. Route 50 about a third of a mile west of the Fair Oaks Shopping Center. The meeting will be brought to order promptly at 7:00 PM.

The Association is offering a special incentive award to its existing members who bring and sign up the most non-members to the meeting. The following rules apply:

1. Sign-ups must be new or former members.
2. New members must possess a valid amateur radio license.
3. New members must be signed up prior to the

7:00 PM meeting start time.
4. Current members of the Board of Directors are ineligible to receive any of the awards.

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st Place - $100.00 plus a one year NVFMA membership. This prize will be awarded to the individual who beings and signs up the most new/former members. To be eligible for this prize, the minimum number of new members is three or more. In case of a tie, the cash award will be split.

2nd Place - $75.00 and an NVFMA polo shirt. This prize will be awarded to the individual who brings and signs up the second most new/former members. To be eligible for this prize, the minimum number of new members must be two or more. In case of a tie, the cash award will be split.

3rd Place - $50.00 and an NVFMA baseball cap. This prize will be awarded to the individual who beings and signs up the third most new/former members. To be eligible for this prize, the minimum number of new members must be one or more. In case of a tie, the cash award will be split.

See you all at the meeting.
73, Maury, W4HYB
Vice President

Potomac Valley Radio Club

Packet: K3MQH 145.63, K3NA 145.63, K4FJ 145.77, KE3Q 145.57 445.375, N3RR 145.51 441.325, N4OHE 145.710 440.925, N4SR 145.63, W3LPL 145.59 441.25, WR3L 145.61 440.95.
Web: www.pvrc.org & www.pagesz.net/~pvrc
Reflector: pvrc@pagesz.net
Information: Rich Boyd, KE3Q, (301) 464-8014, rboyd@capaccess.org

Officers for 1998 were elected at the central meeting in November. They are: President - Tyler Stewart, K3MM, Vice-President - Brian McGinness, N3OC, Secretary - Rich Boyd, KE3Q, Treasurer - Dave Baugher, WR3L.

We are pleased the recently formed SW Virginia Chapter held its first formal meeting in November in Roanoke with a second meeting scheduled in December in Salem. The coordinator is John Mitchell, K4IQ, 540-384-7377.

We are now in the contest season with the CQ magazine DX contests in October and November, the two ARRL sweepstakes in November, and the ARRL DX contests in February and March. These are what contesters call the "big six" of contesting. Future columns will discuss contesting.

Meanwhile, if you have access to Internet, I suggest using the PVRC web page (www.pvrc.org) as a route to contest information.

A Norwegian maintains a neat contest calendar that can be accessed from our web page by clicking on contest calendars, LA9HW, January, and see a list of 20 contests scheduled in January. Or, from the PVRC home page, click on contest rules and then click on a particular contest in the list. Of course, www.arrl.org/contests has details of ARRL contests which may be reached via our web page or directly.

A few of the contests in January (dates in parentheses) are (3-4) RTTY Roundup, (10-11) North American QSO Party, (17-19) ARRL VHF Sweepstakes, and (24-26) CQWW 160-meter contest (cw). Though the smaller contests do not have a club competition category that PVRC may enter as a club, members often participate to check out station equipment and sharpen operator skills.

If you are interested in contesting, we would like to hear from you.

73, Dick Wilder, K3DI,
410-757-6707, wilder@clark.net

Prince George's Wireless Association

Meetings: First working Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM; American Red Cross bldg., 6206 Belcrest Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782.
Club Station: K3CEZ
Mailing: 4109 Kennedy St., Hyattsville, MD 20781
Information: Frank Holton - WA3ZMW (301) 927-1245

PGWA held it's monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 4, 1997 with President Frank Holton, WA3ZMW presiding.

Frank has completely recovered from his recent illness and early in December will be celebrating his ninety first birthday. Congratulations to Frank, go for 100!

During the last meeting, members were asked to come up with some ideas and plan for club activities for 1998. So hopefully everyone will give this some serious thought.

PGWA needs to recruit some new members. There was one prospective new member present at the last meeting so maybe that will bring us good luck in 1998.

Happy New Year to everyone from the Prince George's Wireless Association.

73s from Ken Easton, N3HLY

Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO CALL

are due no later than the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication!!

Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First and Third Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. SVARC Club House 2921 Grace Street, Winchester, Virginia.
Repeater: 146.22 In/ 146.82 Out.
Net: Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net (SVEN) 7:15 daily on 146.22/146.82 Repeater.
Mailing: P.O. Box 139 Winchester, 22604.
President: Fred Wetzel (W4KRT).
Info: Irvin Barb, W4DHU, 955-1745.
Internet home page: http://www.vvalley.com/svarc.

Greetings once again from the Shenandoah Valley! Now that we've survived the holidays we can get to work on those New Year's resolutions.

First, congratulations go out to Rick Choy (N3HXT) who was presented a Certificate of Special Recognition at the December 21st meeting. For many of you who don't know, Rick is the primary "fix it" person for the 146.820 repeater. Many times during power outages, Rick is the first one on the hill with generator in tow. Rick has also been a great help in improvements to the repeater site. Rick, using his trusty backhoe, has put a lot of effort into clearing the site for the repeater. So, on behalf of the club, we'd like to say "Thank you" to Rick for all of his hard work.

On November 22, the VA District 01 Amateur Radio Emergency Radio Service provided communications for the Valley Health Systems, Inc. in the Northern Shenandoah Valley for their "Code Orange" exercise. The majority of the ARES members participating in this exercise are also members of the SVARC. Communications consisted of both packet and voice communications between five locations in Berkeley Springs, WVA, the Winchester Medical Center, the exercise disaster site in Winchester, the Winchester Public Safety Building and the Front Royal Hospital. This voice and data communications system included

mobile, portable and fixed station equipment. Members participating were: Irv Barb (W4DHU), Jane Barb (KD4IET),Don Mort (KU4KN), Fred Wetzel (W4KRT), Wayne Koehler (KE4PMS), Stan Monish (KD4HRJ), Tom Martin (KF4TNX), Tom Sullivan (KD4WSM), Bill Dunn (K4TIX), Ted Ruble(KQ4TL), Chris Dean (KK4GC), Mike Kelly (AB4YY) and Jim Dodd (KF4LGV). ARES and the SVARC were given very high praises at the after exercise critique, which was conducted at the Winchester Medical Center on November 26th.

December 12th was the SVARC's annual Christmas Party. Jane Barb (KD4IET) once again was the chairperson in charge of good food and cheer. The clubhouse was stuffed to the rafters with many members sharing good times. Thanks again to Jane for coordinating this event. The food was wonderful!

A testing session was held on December 20th at the clubhouse. All levels of exams were offered and despite the Christmas shopping season being in full swing, turnout for the event was impressive. Several new hams were indoctrinated into the fold, while others upgraded to the next license level. We were also informed that, beginning in January, testing sessions would be held monthly at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middletown. Testing sessions also continue monthly in Martinsburg, WV.

The SVARC sincerely wishes Good Health and Good Luck to all FAR members in 1998!

73 'til next month,
KE4QJT/Laura Stewart

Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO GALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!

St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association

Meetings: Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM, at the Lexington Park library.
Repeater: K3HKI (146.64 MHz)
Packet: K3HKI.#SOMD.MD.USA.NOAM (145.75/145.01/223.58/440.975 MHz)
Lunch Bunch: Every Friday, listen on the 146.64 MHz repeater between 10-11:30 AM to find out where to meet.
Nets: - "St. Mary's ARES", every Monday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz - "Bottom County", every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz.
Address: SMCARA, P.O. Box 743, California, Maryland 20619.
Newsletters: Complimentary copies are available at local Radio Shack stores.

Happy New Year!

We have made it through another busy year in Amateur Radio. Saint Mary's County has been quite active in recent years.

We expect to still make our presence known in 1998 but will probably do so with a reduced schedule. It seems that the active participation by members has dropped off and the load is being carried by a few hams. Accordingly, we will scale back our participation. I hope that this does not cause a problem with our faithful customers.

Our new officers have pledged to put the fun back into radio. Hope to see everyone in the coming year.

Do not forget the Saint Mary's Net on Monday evening at 8:00 p.m. and the Bottom County Net on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

73, Mark/KE3OX
Secretary SMCARA

Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.
Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.
Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.

The November SPARC meeting was attended by 17 hams. A presentation was given by James Chappell, KQ4NR, on the benefits of club incorporation. Upon hearing the pros and cons a motion was passed to move forward with club incorporation. Dana Huhn, W4DEK, updated us on the search for affordable club logo shirts. Several leads were presented for VA QSO Party sponsors. It looks like there is growing interest in the contest. Any thoughts on how to increase contest participation across the state would be appreciated.

The January meeting will be a project night. The current plan is to learn the fine art of soldering while building a J-pole antenna. Please plan on attending.

73, Bill, KS4II

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Licensed at least 25 years ago?
And licensed now?
Then you should belong to the
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION
For information write:
159 East 16th Ave., Dept F
Eugene, OR 97401-4017
http://www.teleport.com/~qcwa

The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 147.18.
Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.
Web Page: HTTP://WWW.T-MARC.ORG.
Information: President - Owen Wormser K6LEW (703)684-7682 CC Chairman - Bill Conaway W8HNT, Pager (703)741-4251. Ombudsman - Jim Erickson K3LFO (410)549-1041, K3LFO@APEXGRP.COM.

President Owen Wormser K6LEW chaired the Annual Meeting on November 2nd at the Lee Center in Alexandria. Minutes of the 1996 annual meeting, and the treasurer's report, were approved.

There was a report on the completion of work by the combined T-MARC/DMARC digital band planning committee, whose refinements to the 2 Meter and 420 band plans have helped improve operations of digital operators on both bands, and ATV ops on the 420 band.

The report of the Open Band Planning Committee reveals that there appear to be no significant problems with the current band plans for the 144, 222, 420, 902 and higher bands.

Gene W3ZZ, presented a proposed revision to the 6 Meter band plan, and considerable discussion followed his well thought-out proposal. A few minor changes were suggested, and Gene will present a follow-up plan in the near future. Thank you for your efforts, Gene!

Election time: There were no nominations for new officers, so the existing slate was re-elected,

by acclimation. However, John K3HOI, who has been acting as unofficial sec/treas for several years, advised that he cannot continue. As our president said, "I am sure I speak for all of T-MARC when I tell you how very much we appreciate your efforts and contributions to T-MARC over the past several years. We couldn't have done what's been accomplished without you. Thank you so very much". So, it is with great pleasure that we thank Joe Sartori WB3IUT for stepping forward to take on the job. Joe was unanimously elected to his new post!

The officers for the coming year are: Owen, K6LEWPresident; Bill, W8HNT-V.P. for Technical Ops; Gary, W3DTN-V.P. for P.R.; Joe, WB3IUT-Sec/Treas; and Directors Larry, WA3KOK; Bill, W3EAO; and Sandy, WB5MMB.

And, after several years of searching, we have found someone who has volunteered to assist our coordinating committee with its secretarial chores. We welcome Mike Tackish, KA3GRW, to our Coordinating Committee. Bill, the committee chairman, and the rest of us very much appreciate your help!

The membership approved a transfer of sponsorship of the Charles County ARC repeater to WB3IUT, its new sponsor. And the membership reaffirmed its previous decision to not accept payment from the ARRL for our listings in the next edition of the ARRL Repeater Directory. All in all, it was a good annual meeting - thanks to all who turned out!

New construction coordinations have been issued to KA3LAO for a new replexer on 147.555 is southern Carroll County, Md.; to N8YIB for a new replexer on 147.435 in western Md.; and 52.67/53.67 to KA3WYD in Fauquier County, Va.

I hope it's not too late to wish everyone a very happy holiday season, and a safe, happy and prosperous new year.

73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO

Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month at Springwoods and Chaucer, Lake Ridge, VA.
Net: Monday nights at 2000 on 147.24 with 224.78 link.
Repeaters: WB4FQR 147.24 (+), WB4GJZ 224.78 (-), WB4FQR 444.90 (+), N4LJZ 144.99 simplex PL-100 HZ
Mailing: PO Box 112,Woodbridge, VA 22194
Information: Jim Stearns, KC4ZHQ (703) 670-3480.
Change Information: Bob Graham, K4RG, 703/878-0697
Web Page: http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/

200 MEMBERS!!!

Woodbridge Wireless Inc. membership hit 200 paid members in November 1997. Since it's modest beginnings of 30 members in 1972, the Woodbridge Wireless Society (WWS), has come a long way. In 1975 it was incorporated (WWI) and grew to a whopping 140 members in 1992. Thanks to everyone who joined the club and participated in the activities. Please pay your 1998 dues early. Contact the membership chairman, Dave Henry, W4DAV.

THINGS YOU NEED TO DO AFTER YOU RECEIVE A NEW CALL

1. Buy a new hat with your call sign.
2. Buy a new call sign badge.
3. Buy or print new QSL cards.
4. Relabel all your equipment, especially the ones you loan out or bring to field day.
5. Notify the your club membership chairman.
6. Send new envelopes to the incoming QSL bureau. Also remember to keep envelopes on files for your old call (it could be different bureaus).
7. Change "your call" in the TNC for packet and RTTY, and in your logging programs.

8. Get new ham license plates.

ELMERS

Woodbridge Wireless is quite a unique club because of the breath of knowledge in so many different amateur radio specialty areas. We are not a DX club, but have a number of well established DXers. We are not a contest club, but have many advanced contesters. We are not a repeater club, but have four repeaters with members well versed in their operations. We are not a Amateur TV club, but have some premier ATV gurus. You get the idea. We are a diverse club with a broad interest base. So why not list a few amateurs that are interested in helping others get started in a special nitch of the hobby. So here's a first cut of the WWI Elmer list.

Amateur Television - KA4CKI
Amplifier construction - K8MLM
Antenna Design - K8MLM, W4CE
Boy Scout Radio badge - W4DC, KC4BJE, WJ4M, K0LB
Computers - WA0DYJ, + many others
Contesting - KA4RRU, W4NF, K5OF, W4CE, W4RM, W4DC
Direction Finding - K4EBS, KA4CKI, K5OF, W4DC, W4AD, W4NF, W4RM
DXing - W4DC, WB4ZNH, K5OF, N3AF, N4SR
DXpeditioning - WB4ZNH, W4DC, W4NF, K5OF
Emergency Communications - W4CE, W4DC, + many others
Kit Building - KC4BJE, + many others
Moon Bounce - W4AD
MARS - WA4LHT
Meteor Scatter - W4NF
Mobile HF - N3XT, WD4AIR, K8MLM, K3PCC, N8NEV
Packet - N4DXS, KF4TE, N4LJZ, KD4MVG
Public Service - KR4KF, + many others
QRP - KA4RRU, N3DAN
Repeaters - KA4CKI, W4AD, WA0DYJ
Restoration of HF gear - N3DAN
RTTY - KA4RRU, N4SR
Satellite - W4AD, AC4OM
School Clubs - KA4RRU
VHF/UHF - W4NF, W4AD, KA4CKI, WB4EIY

FAR MINUTES, cont'd from page 18

Al also noted that if any other clubs are having a problem, they should not hesitate to notify him.

A motion to adjourn was entertained at 9:08 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10. See Auto-Call magazine for directions.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Allen Brown, KZ3AB-ZF2AB
Recording Secretary
Foundation for Amateur Radio

Chapter X

Society of Wireless Pioneers

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

For Information Call
(703) 536-9537

G AND G ELECTRONICS

OF MARYLAND

8524 DAKOTA DRIVE, GAITHERSBURG, MD 20877

301-258-7373

It's Hamfest Time Again!

Will you buy used gear from some guy at a hamfest, take it home, and find

It Doesn't Work?

We've been here for 20 years!

G AND G ELECTRONICS **offers a 14 day**

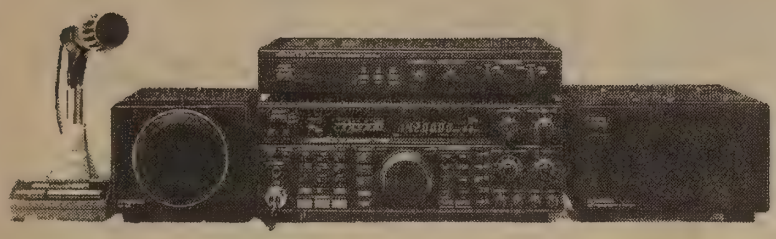
GUARANTEE

on all used gear sold at a hamfest or at our store.
(as-is gear excepted)
If you find our gear does not meet specifications, bring it back, in the same condition as purchased, and get it repaired or a FULL REFUND!

WE BUY

Used Electronic Equipment of All Kinds.
Transmitters, Receivers, Transceivers, Accessories and Junque Boxes.
Test Equipment, Too!

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
AND BY APPOINTMENT
VISA and MasterCard Accepted



SHACK SALES

Non-commercial advertising of Amateur associated equipment is available to subscribers of *Auto-Call* at the rate of **5** cents per word with a **$2.00 minimum**. Commercial vendors and non-subscriber rate is 17 cents per word with a $5.50 (1 inch) minimum. Special headings or special spacing (e.g. one item per line) may be used but such ads will be charged at the column inch rate.

Estate sales for Widows assistance handled by a FAR club will be published without cost.

Your full name and address must be provided with each ad but need not be published. No ads will be accepted over the telephone and all ads must be prepaid. Ads that will be running for longer than 1 month must be accompanied by a letter stating the length that the ad is to be run. Since no effort is made to investigate advertisers, no warranty can be implied. Copy MUST be received by the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication.Send all commercial and non-commercial advertising and Shack Sales to:

John Queen, Auto-Call Editor
755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736
(301) 855-0198

FOR SALE: Tandy 1000TL desktop computer, 32MB hard drive (approx 51HB doublespace), 720KB 3.5 floppy, 360KB 5.25 floppy, 2400BPS internal modem, Tandy mouse/pad, CM-11 color monitor, printer cable, 5.25 floppy case with disks, software on hard drive: HS-DOS 6.2, Norton Utilities 7.0, Procomm Plus V2.01, MS-Word 4.0, in excellent condition ideal for dedicated packet - $100.00; Multi-Tech 224 external 300/1200/2400BPS modem with pwr supply/docs excellent condition - $20.00 (410) 329-2255 home. [01/98]

FOR SALE: Timewave DSP-59 Plus Audio Noise Reduction Filter - excellent condition - $175.00 - (410) 329-2255 home. [01/98]

FOR SALE: New (unused items) - Tucker 2500 dummy load (2500 watt plus rating - with internal air cooling) - S135-00; Hygain BN-4000D balun (1:1 50 ohm 1.6Mhz - 30 Mhz current balun rated at 4000 watts PEP) - $80.00; Yaesu MH-lB8 hand microphone - $30.00; Alpha Delta HV-2KW (5) lightning arrestors - $35.00 each; Targus deluxe universal case padded portable computer/printer sections, accordion file pocket, zip-down workstation with pockets 16.5"W x 2.5nH x 12"D - $120.00 (all the above are unused) - (410) 329-2255 home. [01/98]

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-727 2m/70cm HT with desktop charger, $275; Icom R-1 scanner 0.1-1300 MHz includes cellular $300; JiM M-100 pre-amp for HT $85. Ask about free extra battery and headset. Sig, NV7AA, signer@erols.com, (202) 712-4085, fax (202) 467-0053. [01/98]

FOR SALE: AEA IsoLoop 10-30 antenna with optional IT-l Automatic Tuner, like new in box. $200 call Greg (W5ZNT) at (703) 938-1329. [01/98]

FOR SALE: Sangean ATS 818 all band world receiver with A/C adapter and pre-amplifier $120.00. MFJ 8100 shortwave regenerative receiver, like new, $60.00. Kenwood 13.8V 6 amp regulated power supply model KPS-7 $25.00. Joe N3LRP (410) 437-3840.[01/98]

FOR SALE: Ham Home, No. Virginia, Manassas area. 4 Bedroom, 2-1/2 baths, 2 car attached garage, fully finished basement with radio room. Lot has

5 acres, x-large deck/hot tub. Four towers with 40 meter beam, stack of 3-phased 4 element, 20meter beams, monobanders on 15, 10 and 6 as well as contest quaiity VHF/UHF installation. Best of everything. Appraised at $202K but priced under market with all antennas and towers included. Years of work to set up just plug in your rigs and your ready to operate. Call Mike, KB4CVL (703)791-8280 or kb4cvl@erols.com [02/98]

FOR SALE: New 20 meter 4 element Force 12 EF-420D beam rated for 100 MPH wind—$375. Used Hy-Gain DB-1015 3 element beam for 10 & 15 meters—$150. W9LT (304) 229-7711 Bunker Hill, WV. [01/98]

FOR SALE: 10 yr old 2220 sq ft tri-level, 620 sq ft finished carpeted basement office and ham shack, attached 880 sq ft finished garage on 5 acres with stream at bottom of hill. lst class contest-DX 2 station installation. 110' 45G TH-7 plus 2 el 40 at 120', 73' 25G TH-7, etc. 5henandoah Valley at I-81 and WV/VA line. Marc commuter train 15 min., Dulles 65 min., Frederick 50 min. S185,000. W9LT (304) 229-7711 Bunker Hill, WV or Wendy Baruch (Prudential realtor) 1-800-243-8358. [01/98]

GIVE AWAY! 32' tower with 3 element tri-band beam. You take down. Will help. Henry Wade, (301) 460-3977, Rockville, MD. [01/98]

FOR SALE: Repeaters, UHF (440-470) and VHF/2M (144-170) General Electric Mastr II, Exec II, & Mastr Pro - Antennaes, Duplexers, Hardline & Connectors Call Gary N8BOR at (703) 590-1906.

WANTED: Early pre-1980 microcomputers for museum collection. Also early microcomputer sales literature and magazines. KK4WW (540) 231-6478 or (540) 231-2321. [10/98]

QSL CARDS FOR WAS AND DXCC CHECKED LOCALLY!

QSLS FOR ARRL WAS AND DXCC AWARDS CAN BE CHECKED LOCALLY, USUALLY ON A WHILE-U-WAIT BASIS. CONTACT K3BEQ (301) 773-5730 FOR DETAILS. CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO DXCC AWARDS. SORRY, NO MAIL-INS.
73 Murray (K3BEQ) mgreen@erols.com

NRS

NORM'S ROTOR SERVICE
5263 Agro Drive
Frederick, MD 21703
(301)874-5885

We Rebuild Rotors
Plus:
- Rebuilt Rotors for Sale - Parts for U.S. Built Rotors
- We Buy Used U.S. Rotors/Controls for CASH!

NORM JEWELER K3LYW

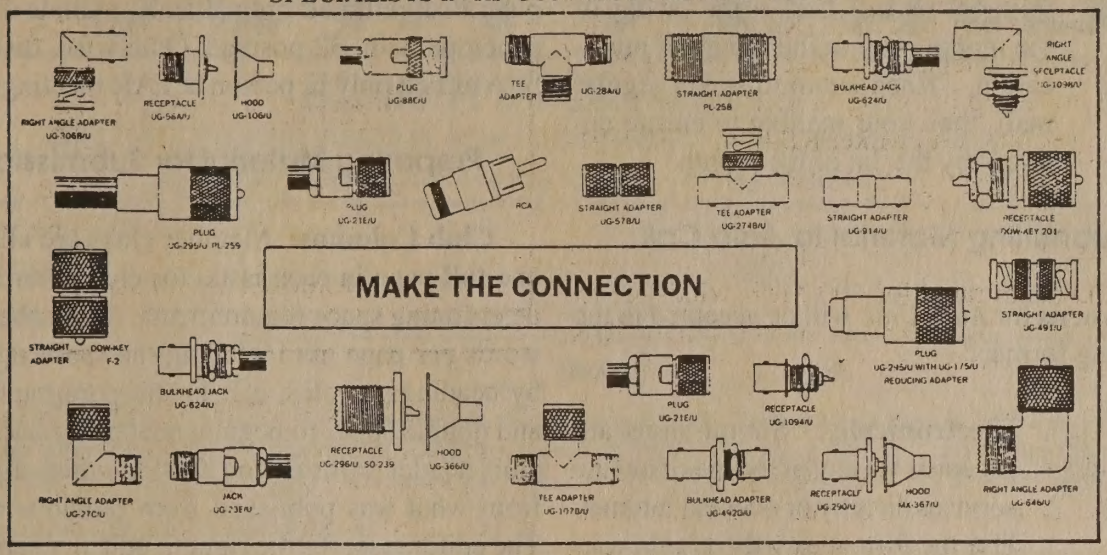
AMATEUR RADIO NEWS SERVICE is an organization of publishers and editors of Amateur Radio newsletters and members engaged in public relations. Its purpose is to assist editors in any way possible. For information, write to Lee Knirko, W9MOL, Amateur Radio News Service, 833 Park Plaine, Parke Ridge, IL 60067. [SWP]

Mid-Atlantic Radio Club. Become a part of one of the country's fastest growing vintage radio clubs. The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club is an active group of radio collectors, restorers and historians. For a sample newsletter, write to Jay Kiessling, Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club, P.O. Box 67, Upperco, MD 21155. (410) 239-1818. [SWP]

MAHLON LOOMIS
INVENTOR OF RADIO
By Thomas Appleby
Second Printing
Available From
SVANHOLM RESEARCH LABORATORIES
P.O. Box 81
Washington, D.C. 20044
Please Send $25.00 Donation
With $5.00 for S & H
[07/98]

The R.F. Connection

"SPECIALISTS IN RF CONNECTORS AND COAX"



The R.F. Connection
213 N. Frederick Ave., Suite 11, Gaithersburg, MD. 20877
301-840-5477

280

JWO SERVICES

ARRL, AMECO, RSGB, CALLBOOK, W5YI, CQ, G. WEST, etc.

Ham related books; software and video tapes — all at a discount!

Code Tapes-Code Keys-Oscillators-Instructor Guides-all class needs with one call!
CALLBOOK CD-ROM, New! 1998! (List $49.95) Only $39.00.
Latest Edition! QRZ, HAM RADIO! CD-ROM (List $29.95) Only $18.00.
1998 Passport To Worldband Radio (List $20) Only $18.50.
ARRL OPERATING MANUAL (List $25.00) Only $23.00.
1996 ARRL HANDBOOK (List $38) Special price while they last. Only $19.00!
1997 ARRL HANDBOOK (List $38) Special price while they last! Only $23.00!
1998 ARRL HANDBOOK, New! (List $32) 1-9, Only $29.50. Call for larger quantity discount.
NOW YOUíRE TALKING. Complete Novice-Tech and No Code License study course. (List $19) 1-9 $17.45; 10-up $16.50.
ARRL's TECH Q & A MANUAL. For Novice-Tech & No-Code license. (List $12.95) 1-9 11.95; 10-up $11.00.

New! On-Line Catalog: www.jwoservices.com New E-Mail address: johnw3is@igateway.com

Only $0.40 handling per order plus actual shipping.

JWO SERVICES
Catalog of Savings - **FREE!**
13 years of excellent service around the world!

JWO SERVICES

John W. Obradovich, W3IS
12 Hickory Place, Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: (717) 731-4747 - Fax: (717) 730-9373
Worldwide Shipments.

We also accept Novus & Discover cards!

Auto Call Production Policy

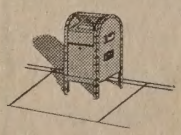
Deadline: The deadline for ALL submissions to *Auto Call* is the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication. When submitting via regular mail, time your mailing to ensure delivery by the 1st of the month.

Submitting Material to *Auto Call*

Submissions for *Auto Call* will be accepted in the following formats:

Electronically: Submissions are accepted via any of the major on line services directly or over the Internet. Use the format exactly as follows:

Internet - JohnQueen@AOL.com
America On Line - JohnQueen
AppleLink - johnqueen@aol.com@internet#
BitNet - johnqueen%aol.com@cunyvm
CompuServe - INTERNET:johnqueen@aol.com
Connect - johnqueen@aol.com
Delphi - internet"johnqueen@aol.com"
FidoNet - To johnqueen@aol.com<CR><CR>
GEnie - johnqueen@aol.com@inet#
MCI Mail - mbx: johnqueen@aol.com
Prodigy - johnqueen@aol.com



Regular Mail: Mail typewritten or computer generated hard copy to: John Queen, Editor, Auto Call Magazine, 755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736. Ensure that your printed material is dark enough for scanning.

Computer Disk: Submissions are accepted on 3.5" or 5.25" computer disk, in either Macintosh or MS-DOS format, using Word, WordPerfect, or standard ASCII text files. Write your name, telephone number, and club name on the disk. Submit graphic files (club logos, etc) in an EPS or TIFF format. Please verify the readibility of your computer files before sending. If you want your computer disk returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with .32 postage. Otherwise, disks will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

Preparing Material for Submission

Club Columns: Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information ONLY when different from what was published from previous month. The editor reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space, content and/or applicability.

Hamfests/Events: Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

Photographs: The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

JOIN ARRL!

BENEFITS FOR YOU . . .

QST, QSL Bureau Awards, Low Cost Insurance, Operating Aids, Government Liason and more - - Much More!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION — AUTO-CALL

Name: _____ **Call:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

$31 in U.S. $42 elsewhere (U.S. funds). Individuals age 65 and over, upon submitting one-time proof of age, may request special dues rate of $24 in the U.S. $36 elsewhere in U.S. funds. Persons age 21 and younger may qualify for special rates, write for application. For postal purposes, fifty percent of dues is allocated to QST, the balance for membership.

Visa, MC, AMEX, Discover #: _____

Signature: _____ **Expires:** _____

Atlantic Division Director
Kay C. Craigie, WT3P
5 Faggs Manor Lane
Paoli, PA 19301
Phone: (610) 993-9623

The American Radio Relay League
225 Main St.
Newington, CT. 06111 USA

Roanoke Division Director
John Kanode, N4MM
Rt. 1, Box 73-A
Boyce, VA 22620
Phone: (540) 837-1340

AUTO CALL — *Magazine Subscription Form*

Please enter my subscription to Auto-Call: ☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift

For ☐ 1 year ☐ 2 years. Subscription rate is only **$8.00** per year. (You may also order a sample copy of the most recent issue for just $1.00 which will be applied to your subscription).

Name: _____ **Call:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Make check payable to the Foundation For Amateur Radio and mail form to:

P.O. Box 7612
Falls Church, VA
22040-7612

Area Club Meetings - January 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Anne Arundel	2 Mobileers Shenandoah	3 Green Mtn.
4	5 DOSARC	6 Antietam PGWA	7 BARC Montgomery	8 AMRAD MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon HEMARC Fauquier	9 VOA Vienna So. Maryland Alexandria	10 North Point
11 Metro Comm	12 Carroll Co. Potomac	13 Leisure Frederick Woodbridge	14 **FAR - VA** Exp Post	15 Anne Arundel	16 Shenandoah	17 Capital City QCWA 91
18	19 OVHA Sterling Park	20 Antietam Arlington	21 BARC Montgomery Goddard QCWA 137	22 MADRAS St. Mary's	23 Central MD Vienna	24
25 Adventist	26 Green Mtn. T-MARC	27 Columbia	28 Exp Post Moose Laurel Carroll Co.	29	30	31

AUTO CALL

P.O. Box 7612
Falls Church, VA
22040-7612

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Arlington, VA 22210
Permit #757

98/09 02649
ALFRED A LAUN III K3ZO
PO Box 97
Temple Hills , MD 20757-0097

Address Correction Requested